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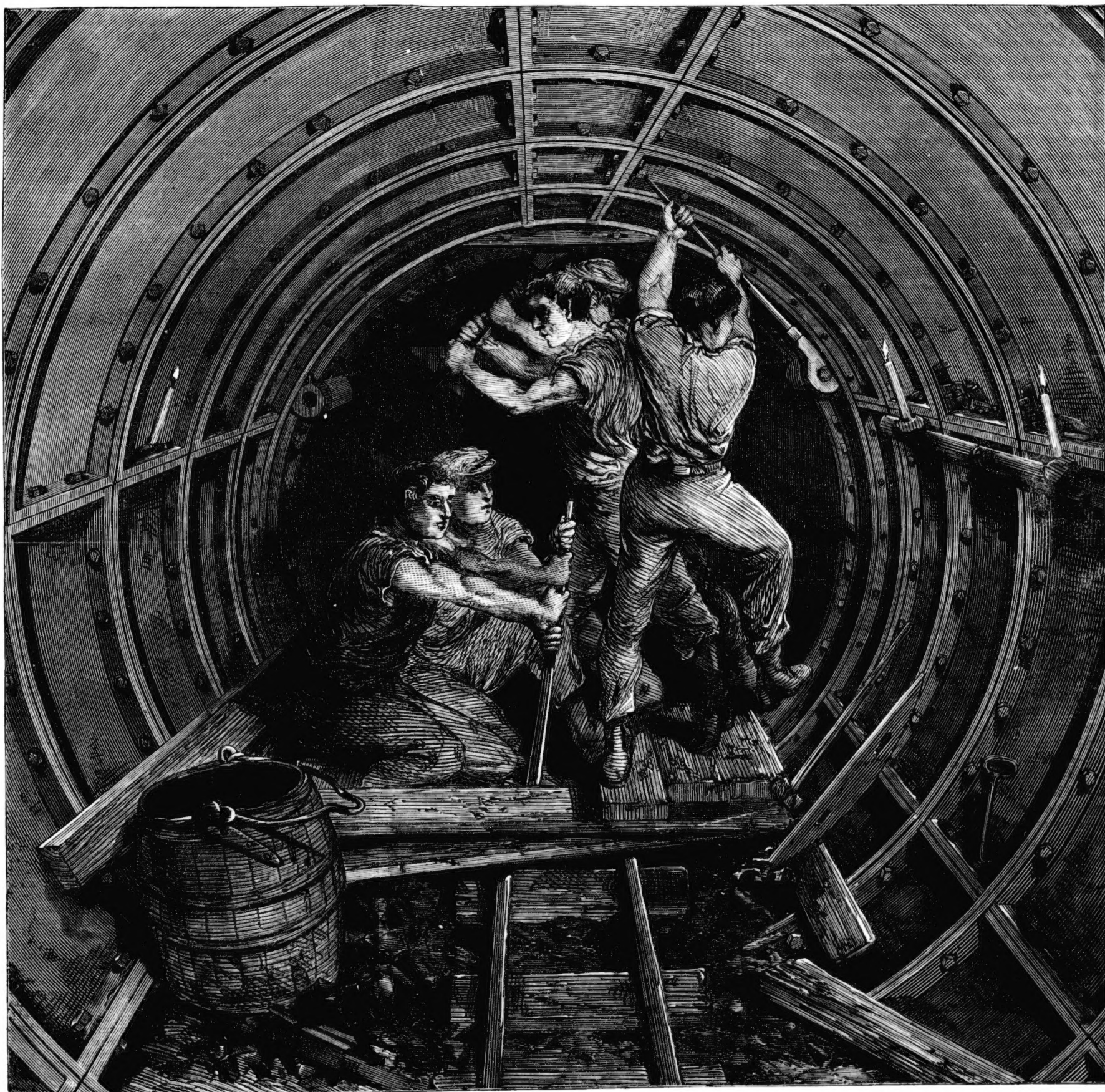
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THE BRIBERY REVELATIONS—AND THEIR MORAL.

THE revelations made before the Corrupt Practices at Elections Commissions now sitting at Beverley and Bridgewater are making a few things tolerably manifest. First, it is clear that in those two boroughs, as well as in Norwich, which has also been upon its trial, and probably in other places which only seem more virtuous because they have not been found out, wholesale, barefaced, systematic bribery has for years been practised both in Parliamentary and municipal elections. Second, that neither bribe-giving nor bribe-taking seems to be deemed at all disreputable, one gentleman who

had detailed manifold acts of corruption by him committed, when asked if he was not ashamed of himself, having quietly answered, "No; his fellow-townsmen thought no worse of him, and he did not care for the opinion of the Commissioners so long as he was respected by his neighbours." Third, that Liberals and Conservatives are equally culpable, the only difference being that sometimes the one party could command a heavier purse than the other; but both appear to have bribed freely, according to their means and the urgency of the case. Fourth, that such constituencies as Beverley and Bridgewater, numbering from 10,000 to

14,000 inhabitants, and from 1000 to 2000 electors (on the existing registers, that is—previous to the Reform Bill of 1867, the number of voters relatively to population was considerably smaller) offer the most convenient and workable fields for the exploits of corruptors. Fifth, that in these places, while there is a portion of the constituency (a majority, we are told) who are incorruptible, and who vote "Blue" or "Yellow"—Conservative or Liberal—according to their convictions, there is invariably a "residuum" of workable voters—the "rolling stock," one practised manipulator called them—who have either no



CONSTRUCTION OF BARLOW'S TOWER TUNNEL UNDER THE THAMES: ADVANCING THE SHIELD.



political opinions at all, or whose convictions are of so flexible a kind as to be bendable one way or the other for a "consideration"—varying from five shillings (or even less) to twenty pounds. Sixth, that the individuals composing this residuum are of sufficient strength to turn the election in favour of whichever party can secure their aid, or the aid of the majority of their number. Seventh, that the price of votes, like that of other marketable commodities, rises and falls according to supply and demand, being sometimes as low as five shillings per vote at the commencement of a contest and mounting as high as twenty pounds towards the close of the poll in a close run. And, eighth, that local bankers are almost invariably the mediums through whom the cash wherewith to bribe is supplied, and that not unfrequently said bankers are themselves the immediate and active agents of corruption, the stories told of the doings of "strangers," "the man in the moon," and so forth, being, as a rule, mere "moonshine."

Now, what are the inferences to be deduced from these facts? To our mind, the first and most obvious deduction is that so long as men regard the giving and taking of bribes as involving no moral turpitude, it will be hopeless to attempt putting down corruption by Act of Parliament; that legal pains and penalties will never check practices that are not looked upon as crimes; and that, consequently, the only radical cure for the evil is to render bribery either impracticable or unprofitable. Did fiscal laws and penalties thereto attached put down smuggling? or do the game laws, with their Draconian punishments and more than Draconian severity of administration by interested game-preserving squires, extirpate poaching? On the contrary, has not the occupation of the smuggler disappeared as reductions of tariff duties made illicit traffic unprofitable? and is it not next to certain that poaching would cease were excessive game-preserving discontinued, and the temptations of easily-got gains thereby held out removed? On the same principle of reasoning, is it not highly probable that bribery in elections will cease when it ceases to pay, but that so long as it answers the purpose of the briber, it will continue to be practised, legal pains and penalties to the contrary notwithstanding?

It is true that the enactments against bribery are more stringent now than ever they were before; but it does not follow that they will be more effective than heretofore as preventives. The deterrent influence of punishment is always in exact proportion to its applicability to the offence aimed at. Excessive severity, or what men deem excessive severity, usually defeats itself: punishments that are out of proportion severe relatively to the popular idea of the degree of culpability cease to be inflicted, and the laws enacting them fall into desuetude, if not into contempt; are, in fact, deemed tyrannical, and either resisted or evaded. So will it be, we suspect, with recent legislation against electoral corruption. Penal enactments have failed even to check, much less to extirpate, bribery in the past; and still more severe laws are not likely to be more effective in the future. The mischief must be eradicated by one of two means—men must either be made to feel that bribery is really a moral wrong, which, we fear, will take a long time and much labour to accomplish, if it can be done at all; or the practice of corruption must be rendered unprofitable, and, as far as possible, impracticable.

These objects, we think, may be effected, first, by widening the area of constituencies so as to render the work of the briber more difficult and the effect of his operations less palpable, because less concentrated; secondly, by suppressing the publication of states of the poll while an election is in progress, so as to prevent people knowing whether bought votes will be of use or not, thus rendering the article unmarketable; thirdly, by the adoption of secret voting, so that no man shall know, if he bribes, whether or not he receives the stipulated *quid pro quo*, and thereby render it scarcely worth his while to bribe at all; and, fourthly, by abolishing penalties against bribery altogether, and leaving electors free to sell their suffrages if they please, or if any one will buy them; for we verily believe that in corrupt constituencies purchasable votes would thereby become such a drug in the market as to find no buyers.

Some people, perhaps, may deem this last proposal so monstrous as to be inadmissible, because, as they imagine, it will, or may, result in making the whole fabric of legislation and government rest on open and avowed corruption. We are convinced, as we have intimated, that it would do no such thing; but would tend, on the contrary, to abolish corruption altogether. Supposing, however, that corruption did still continue to prevail, how much worse should we be—what would be the difference between then and now? Only this, that the evil thing would then be open, revealed, palpable, instead of being, as at present, partially covered up by a thin veil of concealment and hypocrisy; while, at the same time, the popular sense of rectitude would be less blunted and perverted by the removal of the necessity of having recourse to chicanery, tricks, lying, and all sorts of iniquity. There would then be but one sin committed—the bribery itself; while at present we have that vice rampant, and half a dozen others induced by the necessity of concealing its practice. Law, too, would command greater respect from the spectacle of its systematic violation being removed from the public view—a result in itself of no small value; for when men see one law disregarded they are apt to think lightly of the obedience due to any. And as for legislation and government resting on corruption, it would only be the same then as now. We are as fully convinced as any

one that purity cannot come out of impurity; and that a Legislature elected through corruption must be more or less corrupt. But that would seem to be exactly our present position. There are in all small boroughs a section of corruptible voters sufficient to decide an election; the small boroughs return members sufficient in number to decide any vote in the House of Commons; consequently, the corruptible voters practically decide the policy, dictate the legislation, and determine who shall govern the country, and how the country shall be governed. That is confessedly the position in which we stand with penal enactments and secret corruption. Could matters be much, if any, worse without penal enactments, and with open and avowed corruption? It is undoubtedly a very melancholy thing that the Government of a great country should be tainted by foulness at the source of power; but the foulness is not lessened by being partially concealed, while the necessity for concealment induces, as we have shown, other evils which avowed corruption—even if it continued to prevail—could afford to dispense. In a choice of evils, therefore, we prefer open sin to concealed guilt, with hypocrisy and other sorts of guiltiness superadded.

But, as we have shown, it is possible so to arrange matters that both secret and avowed corruption may be avoided. Let us have large, dispersed, and mixed electoral bodies; let us have secret voting; and let us deny to corruptors the knowledge of whether any, and how many, bought votes will suffice to decide an election—that is, let candidates and their agents and partisans be kept in ignorance as to how an election is going till it is closed; and we are satisfied that bribery and corruption of every sort—open or concealed—as well as intimidation and all kinds of undue influence, will cease to be practised in electing members of Parliament; but not till these rules are adopted will such influences lose their power.

THE NEW THAMES TUNNEL.

THE little boy story-books of the Seven Wonders of the World always contain descriptions, more or less apocryphal, of Brunel's great Thames Tunnel as one of the leading wonders, and for centuries to come it must always be regarded as a wonderful work, less, perhaps, either for its magnitude or novelty than for the difficult conditions under which it was begun and continued, in spite of all obstacles, and, after many years of labour, at last carried to a triumphant success, so far as construction was concerned. The enormous solidity of the work as it now stands at the present day is not to be surpassed by any work built within the last hundred years, and the best proof that can be given of the entire confidence felt in its immovable stability is that it is now to be used as a railway for two lines of rails. The idea of making tunnels under rivers is, of course, nearly as old as rivers themselves. As early as 1799 an attempt was made to construct an archway under the Thames from Gravesend to Tilbury. In 1804 the Thames Archway Company also commenced a tunnel from Rotherhithe to Limehouse, and this tunnel actually progressed as far as 1040 ft. under the river when the ground broke in under pressure of a very high tide, and after some time, there being no money forthcoming to pump out the tunnel and continue the works, the whole scheme was abandoned. Other schemes of the same kind cropped up from time to time, but they were never favourably received, and no works were actually undertaken. Isambard Brunel's scheme was matured in 1823, and the works of the Thames Tunnel commenced in 1824. Nineteen years after, in March, 1843, it was opened to the public. During this time, however, the works were discontinued for seven years, after a great irruption of water into them, so that the whole time of construction was only twelve years. Still, in spite of delay and difficulty, and even danger, Brunel persevered and finished his tunnel, which is now as solid as a single piece of stone. The labour and cost of construction in all these tunnels arose from the fact that they came too near the bed of the river. In some places Brunel's tunnel has only about 4 ft. of earth between the crown of the arch and the Thames water itself, and there is no doubt that if another tunnel had to be constructed under the same conditions it might be quite as costly in its execution, even though it were done in half the time.

But it is not of the old Thames Tunnel that we wish to speak now. It is of the new Thames Tunnel, or subway, which was begun on Feb. 16 last (singularly enough, the forty-fifth anniversary of the day of commencing the old Thames Tunnel), and which will be open for public traffic in November next. Thus it will have taken only nine months to complete, instead of twelve years, and its cost will be less than £16,000, as compared with about £450,000. Of course, there are most important differences in the works, both as to size and method of construction. Brunel's is a vast elliptical tube of the most massive brickwork, inclosing two side roadways, each about 14 ft. wide. Mr. Barlow's new tunnel is simply a powerful circular iron tube, 7 ft. in diameter, taken deep under the river and in the London clay, which is itself as impervious to water and as unlikely to move as the great blocks of Stonehenge. Still, whatever the differences between the two tunnels, that which is now nearly finished must always be regarded as an engineering marvel, for the strength and simplicity of the structure and the cheapness and rapidity of its construction. That other such under-stream bridges will soon follow upon the success of this we have not the least doubt; but with Mr. Barlow, sen., must always remain the credit of originating the idea, and with Mr. Barlow, jun., the present engineer of the tunnel, the merit of having carried it out without the slightest hitch or accident, and, with the aid of Mr. Greathead, the contractor, entirely within the estimated cost.

The site of the works of the new Thames tunnel, on Tower-hill, does not attract much notice from passers-by. It is a little hoarded space, about the size of an ordinary kitchen, with a small steam-crane in the centre; and this is all. No doubt the company would have liked to get more, but they could not afford it. This portion of Tower-hill is Crown land; and either the Government did not care to encourage a tunnel which was not much believed in at first, or thought that the indulgence in such a luxury ought to be well paid for. At all events, they charged the company for a piece of ground about 10 ft. square, for their shaft, a price which was at the rate of about £150,000 an acre, with a further fine of £10 a yard for tunnelling under Government ground, and £3 a yard for tunnelling under the bed of the river on their side. In fact, the Government altogether take about one tenth of the very modest capital subscribed for the whole enterprise. The Board of Works, on the south side of the river, where the station is to come out, near Tooley-street, have been more just, or rather not so rapacious, for they have only charged about £200 for the site of the shaft. Inside the hoarding on Tower-hill is a circular iron shaft, 10 ft. in diameter and 60 ft. deep. Down this the visitor who wishes to inspect the works is lowered by the steam-crane, in a "skip," or wooden box, which requires a little careful setting to prevent it tilting too much, if one does not wish to reach the bottom of the shaft in the swiftest and most sudden manner. The upper part of the shaft is lined with powerful rings of cast iron, the lower part with ordinary brickwork, which will hereafter be coated with glazed tiles so as to throw a light to the bottom of the shaft. There the visitor sees before him an iron

tube 7 ft. in diameter, and lined closely along the inside with powerful iron flanges, or what we may call rims, nearly 2 in. deep. This tube has very much the appearance of one of the large clean main-drainage sewers, except that it is built of iron and has a greater incline and curve. Candles, stuck few and far between, twinkle away into the distance, and just suffice to make darkness visible. They, however, do give some light when you are close to them; and, at any rate, however distant, give a sort of confidence to a strange visitor, as serving to prove that they are put for others as well as himself, and that he has company in that cold, silent tube, which is being taken beneath both earth and water. Every one, however, after a minute or two becomes accustomed to its stillness and its partial gloom, and none sooner than those conversant with engineering works, who can see at a glance the strength and compact closing of the tunnel round them.

A rather steep incline of 1 in 40, curving from north-east to south-west—that is to say, from Tower-hill to near Tooley-street—soon leads the visitor from the London clay beneath the land to the London clay beneath the water, and a difference of temperature beneath the two is at once perceptible. It is rather cold here, never rising or falling much beyond 40 deg., and is very much the same both in winter and summer. The candles used in the tunnel and the breath of the workmen employed, however, condense the moisture in the atmosphere, and it hangs on the iron tube in drops of water. All this, however, will disappear when the shaft on the Surrey shore is opened; for so dry has the tunnel proved throughout that every drop of the water wanted for the works or the men, or for mixing of lias cement, has had to be sent down in buckets. The tunnel is designed on a plan to keep it always well in the London clay, and thus from the north to the south shores it makes a dip to pass under the greatest depth of water of the river, and its line of curve is therefore thus. At its nearest point to the river water it has a thickness of not less than 22 ft. of London clay between the bed of the river and the top of the tube, while at its furthest point it has a thickness of not less than 32 ft. In spite of this thickness of clay, however, which is of all others the worst conductor of sound, the visitor standing in the tube about the centre of the river can hear the regular beat of the steamers passing up and down the water overhead. It is perfectly curious to stand and listen to the distinctness with which this noise can be heard. The recent explosion of a steam-boat near Tower Wharf was not only heard, but even felt, in all parts of the tunnel. Out of its whole length of 1320 ft., about 1160 ft. are now finished, and the shield which drives the tunnel is at low-water mark beneath the earth on the south side of the river.

A description of this shield and the way it advances will convey to the general reader a good idea of the very simple method of construction of the tunnel. The shield, then, is for its great strength a light circular piece of mixed cast and wrought iron, weighing 2½ tons, and having an outer diameter of 7 ft. 3 in.

The way the tube of the tunnel—that is, the tube itself—is built is by means of three segments of a circle of cast iron, each of great strength, and weighing 4 cwt., with a centre key-piece at the top, weighing 1 cwt. Each segment or ring, when bolted together, is only 18 in. long, but no fewer than six of these rings are bolted on in every twenty-four hours, so the tunnel is advancing at the rate of 9 ft. a day. As the cap or shield is pushed on for a length of 18 in. it leaves within its tube or rim a space 1 in. greater all round than that occupied by its own tube on the outside. This, therefore, leaves ample room to fit in the segments of the tunnel tube easily. This is done very rapidly. The bottom segment is laid in its place, and the two side segments above it, and between them at the top the key-piece is slid in. Between the long horizontal flanges a layer of white pine is placed before they are screwed close up, and it is to be regretted that some such indestructible material as gutta-percha was not chosen for this work. The spaces between the circular flanges of each segment are regularly caulked in with tow and cement. Still, the shield or cap is 1 in. wider all round than the diameter of the tunnel tube within it which comes afterwards to occupy it, leaving an opening of that space between the clay and the iron. This interstice, when the segment ring is fixed, is closed by pumping in blue lias cement, which, as it quickly sets, forms a ring of stonework, not only impervious to the water—for that, indeed, the tube itself is—but impervious to the action of water on the iron tube itself, which is a very important matter. It takes some time to explain all these details, but in practice they are all very quickly done. Thus the men excavate the ground in front of the shield, move forward the shield, and fill in another segment behind it every four hours; and, as the work is continued day and night in three relay gangs working eight hours each spell, it follows that the tube advances 9 ft. every twenty-four hours. So, though it has only been begun seven months, it is already completed to a length of about 1100 ft., without delay or accident of any kind; and this says a good deal for the completeness of the design of Mr. Barlow, sen., and also speaks well for the careful engineering with which his son has carried out his plans with the aid of the contractors. At the heading, or shield, where the tunnel is driven, the atmosphere is very hot; but this naturally arises from seven men, with about three times that number of candles, working in a very confined space. It would be very much hotter but for the end of a tube which is taken along the tunnel to the shield, and along which, by means of a steam-fan at the head of the shaft, a tolerable current of air is driven. When, however, the tunnel meets the shaft on the other side, and through ventilation can be got, the place will be as cool as a vault, and not affected either by hot or cold weather in the atmosphere above.

It is almost needless, after the description we have given of this circular tunnel, to state that it is not intended for foot-passenger traffic. It is meant for a tramway of 2 ft. 6 in. gauge, on which is to run a light iron omnibus 10½ ft. long, 5 ft. 3 in. wide, and 5 ft. 11 in. high. This will accommodate fourteen people with the most perfect ease. Ordinary lifts will take them down and up the shafts at each end, and at the end of the shaft the "bus" will be waiting. For the first 100 ft. or so the omnibus will be pulled by a rope fixed to a stationary engine; after that it will descend by its own velocity down the incline and up the incline on the other side to the foot of the shaft. The whole transit, including time for descent and ascent, is calculated not to exceed three minutes, which with a working day of sixteen hours, and allowing for the omnibus not always being full, would give about 5000 to 6000 passengers a day, who, at the rate of 1d. a head, would yield a net revenue to the company such as ought to pay an immense dividend on the small capital embarked, and that on passengers alone, exclusive of the charge upon parcels. There is, however, not the slightest reason why, if the traffic increases, two omnibuses should not be run together, instead of one; for as long as they are together and nothing but themselves in the tunnel, collision becomes a physical impossibility.

As far as the work has yet gone no engineering difficulties worthy of the name have presented themselves, though there is no doubt that a great deal of this freedom from obstruction has been due to the originality and perfect carrying out of the whole design. Deep in the London clay, neither slip, subsidence, nor water was to be looked for, and none has occurred. In sinking the shaft at Tower-hill the soil was for 15 or 16 ft. entirely through soft, new-made ground, and in this soil a rotten leather bag was found, containing about 300 silver twopenny, fourpenny, and sixpenny pieces of the reigns of Henry III. of England and Alexander III. of Scotland. According to the new laws of treasure-trove the Government are only bound to pay the standard value of the weight of gold or silver given up to them, quite irrespective of the antiquarian value of the individual coins contained in the mass. In this case most of the pieces were in a most exquisite state of preservation, so Mr. Barlow was rigorously careful to secure them all for the Crown. It is understood that as a graceful recognition of his care on this occasion will be made, and that after a few of the best and rarest coins have been sent, as they should be, to the National Museum, the surplus will be returned to him. If this rule was more generally followed we should hear much less than we do now of the secretion of these rare antiquarian discoveries. Just above where these coins were found a broad and well-paved

road was come upon, which was evidently, centuries ago, one of the main routes from Thames-street to the Tower Keep. Much below this road the remains of bones of many animals, such as swine, oxen, and deer, were found, but nothing more. In the excavations for the tunnel some shark's teeth were found in the soil, and a great many shells, all the latter, with one or two exceptions, being those of salt-water shellfish. Occasionally in going through the clay what are called clay stones were come upon, and one especially of most unusual size, hardness, and thickness. The traces of fossils that have been met with have been few and unimportant; but even these have all borne traces of having once been salt-water crustaceans. In a few weeks more the public will be able to judge for themselves as to the use and convenience of this tunnel. Mr. Barlow, sen., has built the cheapest over-stream bridge—that at Lambeth; and Mr. Barlow, jun., has built the cheapest under-stream bridge—the new tunnel. But, while we can tunnel under the stream wherever we like, we cannot build bridges. There used to be a sort of popular dislike and dread of tunnels which railways have much dissipated, and under-river tunnels will, it is to be hoped, do away with it in no short time altogether. If the tunnels don't pay, people will cease to build them; if they do pay, then the public will have confidence in them, and many others will be begun; and we might also say that the worst tunnel is as safe to traverse as London Bridge in the quietest part of the day.

THE PASCAL FORGERIES.—The long-standing mystification at the French Institute about the manuscripts of Newton, Pascal, and Galileo, which M. Charles has hitherto stood alone in maintaining to be genuine, is now likely to be cleared up. An individual has been arrested to whom it is alleged (but this fact may well be doubted) the deluded savant paid £6000 sterling for the papers which he from time to time read before his colleagues. It is said that the person now in custody forged all the MSS. in a public library, where he had access to models, and that he concealed himself, while at work, by forming a barricade of folio volumes on the table before him. A vast mass of forgeries has been seized at his house.

A NEW ANÆSTHETIC.—A new anæsthetic has been lately discovered by Dr. Liebreich, to which he has given the name chloralhydrat. It is highly spoken of by the faculty, and is said to be superior to chloroform, producing a more complete state of unconsciousness, while it neither induces feebleness nor leaves any bad effects behind. A medical gentleman has informed us that he has held rabbits from twelve to fourteen hours under the influence of chloralhydrat, during a part of which time he kept them suspended over the back of a chair, and as soon as they awakened up they displayed their usual activity and fed with unimpaired appetite. We have also learned that the newly-discovered body has been most successfully applied as a sedative in the treatment of the insane. Chloralhydrat resembles chloroform in appearance, but it is not so heavy, and, being much less volatile than that body, it has of course a feeble smell. On the tongue it has a sharp but not an acid taste; and, though it reminds one of chloroform, it gives the sensation rather of the warmth nor sweetness of the latter substance. Chloralhydrat is absorbed, and not inspired, and in this respect it differs from all other anæsthetics. When liquid ammonia is added to a solution of this body, chloroform is precipitated.

THE STATE OF IRELAND.—The condition of Ireland is now the general topic of discussion when members of Parliament meet their constituents, and within the past few days Mr. Brogden, at Wednesbury; Mr. Watkin Williams, at Wrexham; and Mr. Bromley Davenport, Mr. W. J. Legh, and Mr. Sidebottom, at Stockport, have spoken on this question. The recent assassination of a labourer near Cashel, following so closely upon the agrarian outrage in Mayo, have been used in some quarters as a means of casting doubt upon the efficacy of the "message of peace" which has lately been sent to the sister island. Facts, however, prove the Ireland of to-day to be a very different country from the Ireland of twenty years ago. In January, 1848, when special commissions were issued for the trial of accused persons in the prisons of Limerick, Ennis, and Clonmel, there were 400 prisoners in the gaol at the latter place. But the most remarkable evidence of the terrible state of Ireland was given by the Earl of St. Germans, Feb. 23, 1846, in introducing the Irish Coercion Bill, the rejection of which by the House of Commons some months afterwards led to Sir Robert Peel's resignation. According to Lord St. Germans, during the years 1844-5 there had been 242 cases of firing at the person, 1048 of aggravated assault, 710 robberies of arms, 79 bands of men appearing in arms, 282 cases of administering unlawful oaths, 2306 of sending threatening letters, 737 of attacking houses, and 205 of firing into houses. The chief seat of these outrages was the centre of the island, in the district extending from Cavan in the north to Tipperary in the south.

THE PROPAGATION OF FEVER IN THE COUNTRY.—At a Lincolnshire board of guardians the other day a gentleman thus described the village of Sotheby:—"The village was full of fever cases; and no wonder. The beck was dried up, and the wells were filled with sewage matter. They went to one pump, and found the water emitted an unbearable stench. He asked a woman if she drank the water from the well, and she replied that she did, but that it stank a bit; and there could be no doubt about that, for the well was full of 'pure' sewage matter. They went to another house, occupied by a widow with five children, the head of the family having died of fever last year. This family were now on the books of the union. The house was built on a declivity; the pigsty, privy, vault, and cesspool were quite full; and after a shower of rain the contents were washed up to and past the door. The family was in an emaciated state, and one of the children was suffering from fever. After inspecting that part of the village they proceeded to the house of a man named Harrison, who, with his wife, was laid up with fever; both man and wife were buried in one grave yesterday week, leaving five children to be supported by the union. Harrison was the best workman in the parish. The cost to the union has already been £12, and at the lowest computation a cost of £600 would fall upon the union for maintaining the children, and probably they might remain paupers for life. This amount would have been sufficient to drain the parish." And Sotheby is only a sample of hundreds of such fever nests.

ENDOWED SCHOOLS ACT, 1869.—The following notice, dated 2, Victoria-street, Sept. 6, has been published:—"The Endowed Schools Commissioners desire to direct the attention of those concerned to the 32nd section of the endowed Schools Act (32 and 33 Victoria, cap. 56). By the general provisions of the Act the preparation of new or amended schemes for endowed schools is entrusted to the Commissioners; but by the above section they are restrained—in the case of endowments which for three years previous to Jan. 1, 1869, exceeded £10,000 a year, for twelve months; in the case of those which, similarly reckoned, exceeded £1000 a year, for six months—from framing such schemes; and the preparation of them is, during the said periods, placed in the hands of the governing bodies, should they see fit to exercise the right. Schemes so prepared are to be submitted to the Commissioners, who must consider them before framing schemes of their own for the said schools, and are to be further dealt with as provided in the Act. The Commissioners desire it to be distinctly understood—1, that they do not engage to say whether any given school is entitled to the above privilege. The authority to decide the question of the sufficiency of the income is given by the Act to the Charity Commissioners; 2, that by the present notice they only desire to call the attention of parties to their legal rights, which may possibly be overlooked by themselves in some cases. The issuing of this notice in no degree fetters the Commissioners, or commits them to any particular course of action in reference to the schools in question, or to the schemes which may be submitted according to the aforesaid provisions of the Act. The period reserved in the case of the larger endowments will terminate with Aug. 2, 1870; in the case of the smaller ones with Feb. 2, 1870. In either case the governing bodies must send notice to the Commissioners, on or before Oct. 2, 1869, of their intention to avail themselves of the privilege referred to, or they will lose the right to exercise it."

FLAX TRADE OF IRELAND.—Ireland seems to be advancing in the manufacture of flax to an extent which could hardly have been anticipated a few years ago. In 1839 only 9017 persons were employed in this branch of industry in Ireland; in 1850 the number had risen to 21,121; in 1856 it was 28,573; in 1861, 33,525; and in 1868 no less than 57,050—an increase of 70 per cent in this last brief period. The number of persons employed in flax factories in England and Wales in 1868 was but 21,829; in Scotland, 40,420; in Ireland, 57,050. There were in Ireland in 1868, 143 flax factories, containing 891,273 spinning-spindles and 12,969 power-looms. In 1861 there were only 100 factories, with 692,981 spindles and 4666 power-looms. The amount of moving power has increased from 10,716 steam and 2384 water, in 1861, to 25,595 steam and 3466 water in 1868. The flax factories in Ireland have always employed twice as many females as males, and in 1862 the numbers had become 9953 males and 23,572 females; but the returns of 1868 show no marked further tendency to the introduction of a larger proportion of female labour. In 1868 the number of males employed was 16,782, an increase of nearly 69 per cent since 1861; and the number of females was 40,268, an increase of less than 71 per cent. There was, however, in that period an increased employment of child labour in the flax factories of Ireland. The total number of children under thirteen years of age was 668 in 1861, and 1374 in 1868—an increase of 106 per cent; and the number of female children increased from 442 to 1031, or 133 per cent. But the number of children under thirteen who are employed in the Irish flax factories is still by no means large; it is less than 2½ per cent of the whole number of persons employed. The flax manufacture is found in fourteen counties of Ireland. Antrim takes the lead, and employs nearly 32,000 persons in this industry, a number unequalled in any other county in the United Kingdom. Antrim is followed, with a long interval, by Down, Armagh, Tyrone, Louth, Kildare, and Cork; and these by Tipperary, Donegal, Londonderry, Monaghan, Dublin, Waterford, and Galway.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

The Emperor, who drove through the principal streets of Paris at the close of last week, is said to be sufficiently recovered to resume his ordinary mode of life, and has addressed a despatch to the troops at Châlons, stating that he fully intended to have been present at the breaking up of the camp, but that his physicians still oppose. The camp has consequently broken up without his presence. Prince Napoleon has been visiting the field of Waterloo. General Prim has had an audience of the Emperor, it is supposed in reference to the state of affairs between Spain and the United States in relation to Cuba.

The *Journal des Débats* says that the liberty of the press in France just now is virtually unlimited, and yet that the immense majority of French papers maintain a becoming tone, and discuss the questions of the day with calmness and sincerity. A very limited number of journals, forgetting, it says, the language of educated people, give themselves up to discussions of the most miserable character, in a style appropriate to the ideas they attempt to express. And what, asks the *Débats*, is the result? "Instead," it says, "of exciting the public mind against the Government, they only fill with disgust the better class of their readers. It is not their adversaries they injure, but themselves." The conclusion of the *Débats* is that if these papers are not prosecuted, but left entirely to themselves, they will soon lose all influence.

SPAIN.

Great excitement has been produced in Madrid by the rumour that General Sikes, who has been there on a special mission from America, had intimated that probably the force of public opinion would soon compel the United States Government to recognise the belligerent rights of the Cuban insurgents. The first official information of this report comes in the shape of a telegram, stating that the note of the American Minister had been communicated to the principal European Governments, and that replies had been received from England, France, and Austria, "favourable to the rights of Spain." Two iron-clad steamers have received orders to sail at once for Cuba, and in the course of this week 10,000 men will have been dispatched to the island, and further reinforcements are to follow. A Madrid journal says that commercial firms in Havannah have offered to provide 3,000,000 reals to defray the expenses of the conveyance of troops to the island.

ITALY.

The Ministerial crisis in Italy may yet, it is believed, be averted. Signor Ferraris, though he has not withdrawn his resignation, has consented to retain office provisionally; and it is understood that if he remains other changes which have been contemplated will not take place. In case, however, Signor Ferraris should persist in his resignation, Signor Minghetti has been mentioned as his probable successor.

It will be remembered that the attempt to assassinate Deputy Lobbia, at Florence, some months since, was supposed to be connected with his possession of certain documents bearing on a charge of fraud in connection with the tobacco contracts. We are now informed that Deputy Lobbia has been called upon to answer a charge of fraudulently concocting this charge, and also of being concerned in the robbery of the documents in question. It is believed that the character of persons of high standing will be called in question, even if it should not be seriously damaged by the result of the inquiry.

SWITZERLAND.

The Swiss Federal Council have already sent in their answer, couched in good bluff Swiss, to Prince Hohenlohe's circular note, proposing a collective protest of European Governments against any measures that might be devised by the forthcoming Ecumenical Council against the authority of the State. They declare their full agreement with the principles laid down by Prince Hohenlohe and the Bavarian Cabinet, but do not see any necessity for an anticipatory protest against hypothetical resolutions of the Council. "Moreover, the Bundesrath may safely forbear from framing any preventive measures with regard to the ecclesiastical authorities of Switzerland, who are quite sufficiently acquainted with the constitutional means at the command of the civil authorities, whereby such decrees of the Council would be met which might be contradictory to the principles of the constitution of the Bund, or which might endanger the peace between the different creeds."

AUSTRIA.

Prince Charles of Roumania, who is on a visit to the Emperor of Austria, has just had the order of Leopold conferred upon him by his Imperial host. Advantage was taken of the presence of the Prince at Vienna to lay before him the case of the persecuted Jews in Roumania. Two chief Rabbis had audience of him on the subject, which also formed matter for discussion in the interview between the Emperor and the Prince. It is to be hoped that the representations made will lead to the more tolerant treatment of the Jews in the Principality.

RUSSIA.

A congress of Polish doctors and naturalists, attended by members of the Universities of Galicia, Posen, and Poland, is in session at Warsaw. M. Meyer, president of the Scientific Association, opened the proceedings in a speech in which he welcomed the delegates in the name of science and as fellow-countrymen. M. Meyer has been chosen as president, and M. Galenowski, of Paris, as vice-president.

A ukase has been issued at St. Petersburg reducing the term of military service from seven years to five in the case of young men under twenty who enter the army as volunteers. A further reduction of a year's service is promised as a reward for good conduct. This regulation is to be followed by another restricting marriages in the army. Hitherto soldiers were encouraged to marry in order to induce them to make the army their home, and their wives and children were maintained by the Government. This practice is now regarded as too expensive, and not desirable even from a purely military point of view, as the movement of the troops from place to place has been greatly encumbered by their taking so many women and children with them. It is found that the number of soldiers' marriages has considerably diminished since the introduction, four years ago, of the present system of short military service. In 1860 four soldiers out of ten were married, whereas the proportion now is four out of seventeen.

GREECE.

The King of Greece has written a letter to the Hellenic Chamber in reply to a congratulatory address from that body on the occasion of the birth and baptism of his second son, and the text of the letter has just been published. His Majesty says that, on seeing the affection which the representatives of the country display towards his children, he prays the Almighty to render those children worthy of responding to the hopes of the Hellenic race. Rejoicing that he is the head of a national dynasty, he regards the Hellenic Crown as a sacred deposit belonging to a Prince, Hellenic not only in heart, but in religion and birth. His Majesty says that he shall always appeal to the patriotic co-operation of all, so that assistance may be given to everything which can contribute to the amelioration of public security, the re-establishment of public credit, the encouragement of the industrial arts, and the material progress of the country. "The recent national calamities," he says, in conclusion, "which all sorrow over, ought to redouble our zeal, and guide our minds and hearts to the triumph of one idea—the amelioration of the present, so as to ensure us a happy future."

EGYPT.

The Viceroy of Egypt has introduced into the Government offices at Cairo a reform for which the clerks in the different departments will not thank him. He has ordered that wooden chairs shall be substituted for the soft-cushioned divans hitherto in

use, and has forbidden smoking and coffee-drinking during office hours. To realise the full scope of this innovation, it must be remembered that Egyptian officials were always smoking, and that they slept in peace two thirds of the day. How they will thrive under the new state of things remains to be seen. At present they must feel as if in purgatory. It should be stated that the Viceroy's Ministers have been exempted from the change, the idea being, no doubt, that a Cabinet Minister has less need to be wide awake than other people.

THE UNITED STATES.

President Grant has appointed General Sherman Acting Secretary of War until Mr. Rawlins's successor shall be appointed.

The Conservative Republican Convention of Mississippi has confirmed the nomination of Mr. Lewis Dent as Governor. The Democratic State Convention of Wisconsin have nominated Colonel Robinson Governor, and have passed a resolution in favour of taxation of bonds. Mr. Chavez, a Republican, has been re-elected Congressional delegate for New Mexico. The Republicans have carried the elections in the State of Maine, although several Democrats have been returned as members of the Legislature. The Republican candidate for the office of Governor, Mr. Chamberlin, was returned by a majority of 6000, not one third of the majority gained by the Republicans last year.

The Humboldt centenary was celebrated on Tuesday throughout America with every demonstration of enthusiasm. Some alarm seems to have been excited lest the statue of the great traveller, which had been cast in Germany, should not arrive in time to be duly inaugurated. We learn, however, that it reached New York some days before the celebration, and was greatly admired there.

A filibustering party, sailing from New Bedford for Cuba on Monday were overhauled on Tuesday, forty miles at sea, by a United States vessel. They were captured and taken back to New Bedford.

A severe storm raged, on the evening of the 9th inst., in the New England States, seriously injuring the telegraph lines and destroying and unroofing numerous churches and other buildings in Boston, where the damage is estimated at over 1,000,000 dols. Several towns of Massachusetts, Maine, and New Hampshire have suffered much damage.

PARAGUAY.

The latest intelligence from the seat of war in Paraguay is contained in a Lisbon telegram, according to which the allied army, under the Count d'Eu, was prosecuting its operations against Lopez with equal vigour and success, capturing two forts, occupying a third, and threatening a fourth. At Assuncion a Provisional Government has been formed, in the nature of a Triumvirate.

SEVERAL CASES OF HYDROPHOBIA have recently occurred in Yorkshire. One of these, at Huddersfield, has just proved fatal. The victim was a boy named James Henry Boothroyd, five years of age. He was bitten by a rabid dog in July last, and his wounds were attended to by a surgeon, and it was hoped he would recover; but symptoms of hydrophobia made their appearance a few days ago, and the sufferer died on Monday.

THE POTATO CROP OF 1869.—The potato crop of 1869 will prove to be one of the best in the experiences of this generation. The season has been pretty equally favourable upon the whole, and unfavourable in part, to all the occupants of our fields and gardens. The potato has been subjected to severe trials, but has pretty well got through them all, and the aggregate crop is in quality excellent and in quantity enormous. In the early part of the summer there were reports of the appearance of disease in many places. We believe there has been no case of disease seen anywhere as yet, but many times the haulm has been scathed by frost and blighted by aphids, and superficial observers have been in haste to pronounce these instances proofs that "murrain was stalking through the land." The success of the plant in 1869 is in strict accordance with all our past experiences. The potato, more than any other product of our fields, is, in a certain sense, an actinometer: the bulk of the crop is a measure of the relative degree of the summer heat. The crop has been many times in jeopardy through the prevalence of a low temperature, but the weather has recovered in time, and we are now safe; all, indeed, that need be feared is second growth, which in many fields has commenced already.—*The Gardener's Magazine.*

THE GERMAN NORTH POLE EXPEDITION.

LIEUTENANT PAYER, who accompanies the German North Pole expedition in a scientific capacity, has undertaken to furnish the papers with information as to the progress and success of the undertaking. We take the following from his first letter, which has lately appeared:—

"For the first two weeks we were detained by contrary winds in the middle of the North Sea; indeed, we were driven so far from our course that at the commencement of July the Norwegian coast to the north of the Mars Mountains became visible. At length the barometer fell from 770 M.M., its highest point; the wind, which had for six weeks been blowing without intermission from the north, veered round to south-east, and we passed the polar circle at twelve o'clock on the night between July 5 and 6. We received the customary baptism in water at 3 deg. R, and passed into the misty regions of the arctic zone. This was the first night on which the sun did not set. The temperature of the air varied from 3 deg. to 4 deg. R., and the sea-baths which we had now taken on all calm days were stopped. On July 9 we came in sight of the lonely and uninhabited island, or rather rock, of Jan Meyen. It is the centre of the seal fishery, and in spring the boundary of the shoal ice. Its dark and rugged cliffs, broken by snow-filled ravines and surmounted by mist-covered heights, did little to satisfy our longing for the marvels of the Arctic world. Its highest point, stated to be 6700 ft., was to have been measured, but the fog rendered this impossible. On the 12th we reached 74 deg. N. lat. and about 10 deg. W. long. from Greenwich, and in the night met with the first ice. It was only a whitish blue mass, some three cubic fathoms in size; but this herald of the pack ice was sufficient to rouse us all from our sleep and bring us on deck. To-day (July 14) we reached 74½ deg. N. lat.; calm, perfectly quiet sea. It seems as if the fogs would never leave us; they have separated us from the Hansa since the 10th. Our signals remain unanswered. At any rate, Pendulum Island, 70 deg. 30 min. N. lat., 19½ deg. W. long., is fixed for our place of meeting. Gulls, auks, and stormy petrels fly continually around us, and generally fall a sacrifice to their curiosity if they come too near. On an excursion in one of the boats which I made to-day, several were killed. Indeed, the numerous Nimrods make the deck somewhat dangerous. The sight of whales is a common occurrence. On the 12th three came within eight yards of the ship. For a time we watched them in silent wonder, and then opened a quick fire with Wenzel rifles, as it was impossible to harpoon them from the vessel. The wounded animals plunged enraged to the depths of the sea. Since we have entered the arctic regions seals are still more common. The dark heads and distorted faces which peep for a moment out of the lead-coloured surface of the water, full of curiosity and suspicion, and then vanish again, are a strange and comic sight, and it is easy to understand how it was that the sailors formerly mistook them for mermaids. During the first three weeks ships were almost constantly seen on the horizon, whose radius from the deck is about three quarters of a German mile—now we look in vain for a sail. When we get a favourable, that is, a west wind, to divide the ice, we shall put on steam and steer through the pack ice westwards for Pendulum Island, which is about twenty-five German miles distant (July 15). The ascent of a mountain 3000 ft. high will then show us the state of the ice to the north of the neighbouring island Shannon (75 deg. N. lat., 19 deg. W. long.). This will determine the length of our stay, during which we shall occupy ourselves with measuring the degrees of latitudes, determining the magnetic conditions, correcting former statements as to the position of places, and taking a hasty survey of the island, which is above ten German square miles in extent. To the north of Shannon the coast of Greenland is almost unknown; so that will be first explored. We cannot yet make further plans, but geographical discovery is the principal purpose of our expedition. According to our instructions, we are to winter between 80 deg. and 85 deg. N. lat., and make sledge expeditions into the interior of Greenland. From the middle of May to the end of June an expe-

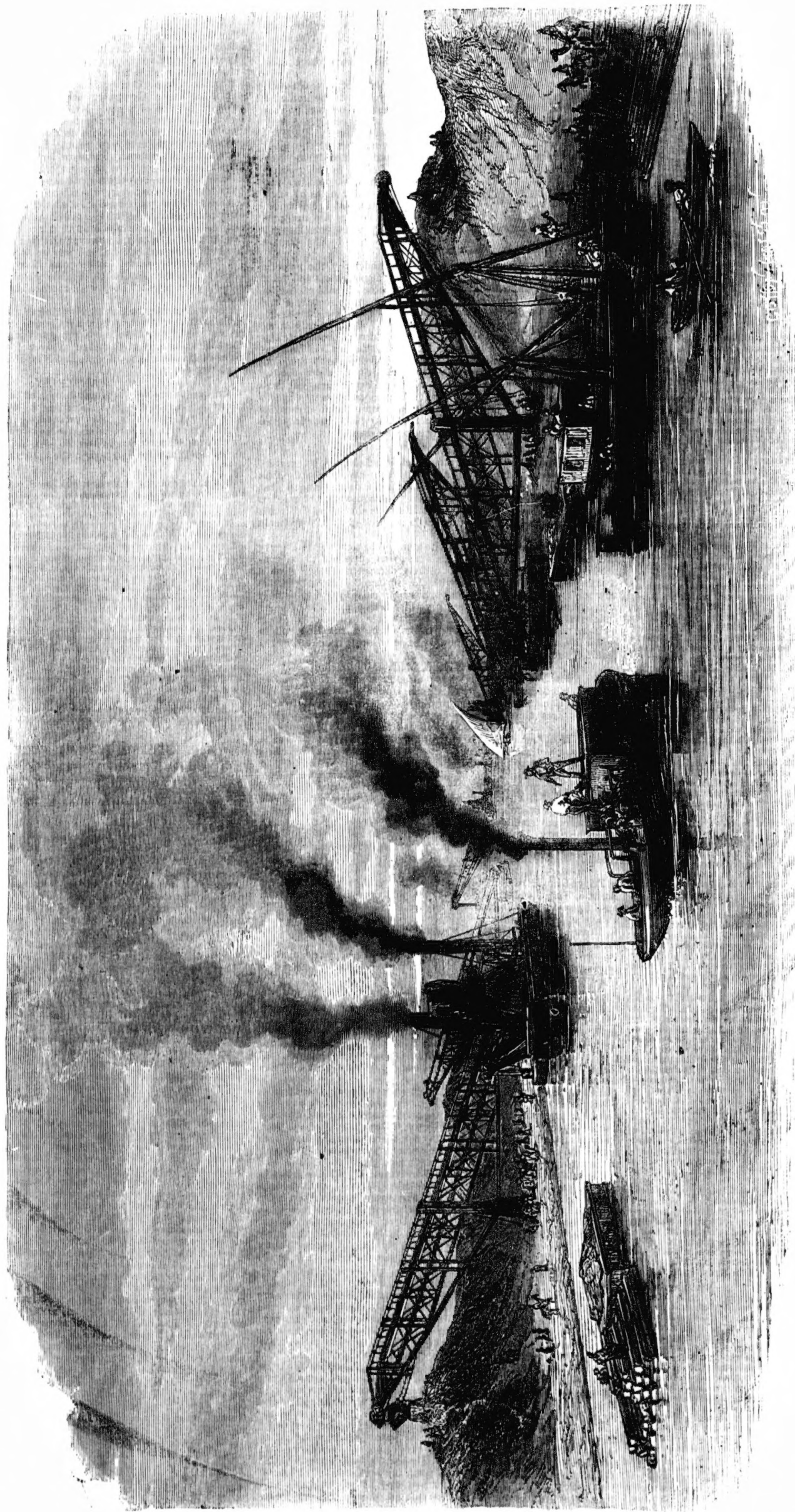
dition of the kind will be made to the W.N.W., for the purpose of reaching the west coast of Greenland at the northern extremity of Kennedy Channel. The distance is about one hundred miles, and it is almost certain that we shall march without dogs, as the interior is likely to be wild and rugged, and there would be but little probability of our being able to keep the animals alive. Every scientific observation which circumstances permit will be made, and high mountains will be climbed in order to gain an idea of the conformation of the

interior of the country as possible. If our plan succeeds, we shall approach the coasts of what Kane believed to be an open Polar sea. I have been intrusted by Dr. Petermann with the command of this expedition. Late soundings give 1000 to 1200 fathoms at 11 deg. W. long, and from 74 deg. to 75 deg. N. lat. Not far to the west the bottom must rise suddenly; for near the pack ice the depth varies from 100 to 300 fathoms. On the 15th, during a partial dispersion of the fog, a light stripe was clearly observable to the north-west, about 4 deg. in

height, fringing the dreary grey of the sky. This light played very faintly into blue, and slightly resembled a weak aurora borealis. It was the ice-blink.

"Postscript on July 15.—Yesterday the calm sea and quiet air formed a picture of the most perfect peace. The ship lay almost motionless on the deep blue transparent water. At noon to-day, when the fog cleared off, the white borders of the ice-pack, with its blue shadows and rifts, lay before us, at about 800 paces distance, broken and in rugged and cold

sublimity. It reminded us at once of the picturesque end of an immense glacier, and the wind that blew in our faces was truly glacial. The ice, which at first appeared to form one great close wall, proved, when we approached it, to be split into wild masses and fields; the latter are often miles in length. It is well known that the polar ice is free from salt, as the water in the process of crystallisation throws out all foreign substances. As it has been observed that two ships, when not widely separated, gradually approach each other in a perfect calm, it might be



THE SUEZ CANAL: THE MARITIME CANAL AT KANTARA DURING THE DREDGING OPERATIONS.

expected that the attraction of gravity would, under the same conditions, draw large floating masses of ice together. The melting of the ice, however, produces currents which counteract this tendency; so that, in fact, a calm divides ice-fields, instead of uniting them. A three-master has just been observed, and we are all sealing our letters."

COMPLETION OF THE SUEZ CANAL.

THE works at the Suez Canal lose nothing of their magnitude now that they are nearly completed. Indeed, the result of the great enterprise is so startling in its aspect that one is reminded of those gigantic undertakings of the Romans, the remains of which attest the enormous material power

of the people. Perhaps this sort of illusion is fostered by the appearance of enormous engines which bear a close resemblance to the balista and catapult of ancient warfare; it is only a superficial likeness, however, for the machines are eminently pacific in their intentions, being, in fact, the dredgers and elevators used for deepening the channel. Messrs. Borel and Lavalley, the engineers from the Polytechnic School, have undertaken this part of the work, and they have always been found equal to the gigantic task. In the last session of the Institute of France the Montyon prize for mechanical science was awarded to M. Lavalley, whom the Emperor had previously decorated with the cross of the Legion of Honour. In order to effect the proper dredging of the canal, it was necessary to establish a series of engineering workshops for the construction of the machines—the

largest which have ever been used. When the borders of the canal were beneath the level of the water, the sand dredged from the bottom was thrown out on the edge of the stream, and used for making sloping banks; and, in order that the material might be properly adjusted, jets of water from a steam-pump were discharged upon it during its passage from the engines. Should any denser matter be dredged up and thrown upon the bank, a chain furnished with flanges works in the dredge, and reduces the mass to a proper tenacity. The method of making these banks and the operation of the dredges will be seen by a reference to the left-hand portion of our Engraving. A large quantity of the sand dredged from the bottom is carried by boats to Lake Timisah or the other places where such material is required. When the

banks are too high for the dredgers, a machine called an elevator is used, its action being that of a great inclined plane turning on an axle. Up this plane a series of small waggon are propelled by steam-power which drags a chain, the lower end of the platform resting in the vessel containing the sand and dredged earth required to be deposited. Each large dredge requires two elevators to relieve it of its load.

Amidst these constructions of modern engineering art, it is strange to see the representatives of the oldest nations of the world resting in mute attention upon the banks of the stream that has been brought into the desert that the tide of modern enterprise may float them away upon its flood. Our second engraving represents the aspect of the camp from Syria waiting at Kantara on their journey from the lakes at Menzaleh.



GENERAL VIEW OF KANTARA. SYRIAN CARAVAN ON THE BORDERS OF LAKE MENZALEH.

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LADY PALMERSTON.

FEEDLE-MINDED, ninnipimini dolls of wives might well be astonished first, and edified afterwards, if they were capable of either, by the accounts given in the brief published memoirs of Lady Palmerston of the varied activity and energy of her life. We are informed that she undertook the entire management of the households at Brocket, Cambridge House, and Broadlands, as well as that of her own property; that she examined the accounts herself, trusting absolutely nothing to stewards, superior servants, or any class of agents; kept her visiting-book as regularly as a merchant—of course one means a merchant of the old school—keeps his accounts; and actually filled up the blanks of her visiting-cards with her own hand. Her husband was a man of the same kind, as full of energy, orderly activity, and minute attention. Unless our memory fails us, it is Mr. Arthur Helps who has put on record the fact that Lord Palmerston was the best of hosts—a man who overlooked nothing, forgot nothing, and, it is unnecessary to add, neglected nothing that would conduce to the comfort of his guests; a man who would carry his attentions to the length of looking out your train for you in *Bradshaw*; and all this without fuss, worry, hurry, or *gêne* of any description. When we think of the immense round of political and social responsibilities involved in lives like those of Lord Palmerston and his lady—the hundreds of people and the thousands of things to remember and care for which every day brought with it—we may well feel, looking at the stately and effective manner in which such splendid Englishmen and Englishwomen go through their lives, something of the wonder and admiration which it has often been said the satisfactory performance of an opera is peculiarly calculated to excite in our minds: so much got through, such conflicting matters harmonised, such versatile faculty employed, and the general result so fine. Everybody who knows the best specimens of educated English gentlemen engaged in political life, is aware that the type we have now before us is not uncommon. Nor is the versatile energy wanting in men who are uneducated or half-educated; but the social grace and versatility are only to be found in the highly-cultivated classes; though one form of it may be seen in the best specimens of the Roman Catholic clergy.

The first condition of orderly versatility and energy like those of Lady Palmerston is good health, or, at least, stamina. The power of sustained attention, and capacity of coming up smiling to the cry of "Time!" however you may have been bruised—these are inconsistent with a narrow thoracic cavity, a cachectic habit, or a shattered nervous system. The second condition is a thoroughly good education—social as well as literary; the person must have been born to good feeding, high culture, and free, self-possessed intercourse with an immense variety of people. Lastly, there must be money and the means of ease in small matters. Of course, Lady Palmerston could not have been what she was, and done what she did, if her position had not been such that she was never fretted by the small obstacles that inevitably dog the heels of poverty.

There is something deeply pathetic in a thought which can scarcely be escaped as we contemplate a figure like that of the distinguished lady who will have been laid in her grave by the time these words are read. Think of this magnificent human creature—well fed, well trained, well "groomed," well placed; her body in perfect order, her senses nicely cultivated, her brain always in equilibrium, and every appliance that the accumulated culture and resource of the human race have invented placed at her disposal in order to make the wheels of life go smoothly to her! She is a type of thousands, of scores of thousands, in this country. But now think of your washerwoman or your housemaid, or the house-mistress of the slums! Either of these may be what is called clean, or what is called healthy, or what is called intelligent; but the gulf between the two creatures, Lady Palmerston and the costermonger's sordid drudge, is tremendous; it is, in some respects, too unpleasant to be exhibited in detail, and it can never be shown in the lump. It is painful to dwell upon; but the least utopian of us all can scarcely help wishing for the command of some spell by means of which the march of educational and sanitary improvement should be accelerated and the gulf lessened; for, however human resource and culture may increase, there is a point at which their best and most important results may be overtaken by methods possible to be placed within the reach of all of us.

There are thousands of men who, having money, or brains, might at least attempt to help on the work of the world in respect of such methods, but who are too lazy or

too selfish to touch but with their little fingers the burdens which make the hearts of the less indifferent ache every hour. Such men may not care much for what other men suffer from preventable causes of degradation, but perhaps they may be interested for a moment by the case of women. The natural tenderness which one sex has for the other might surely be a little touched by the thought how great is the waste, the spoiling, the needless wear and tear, the general grinding down of the minds and bodies, of women in the present state of our civilisation. Look at the well-appointed creature who—with health in her well-fleshed limbs, good-humour in her eye, and ready resource and generous power in her cultivated brain—adorns the home of the well-to-do Englishman, and then think of her wretched, squalid sister, who can scarcely count twenty, who never heard of "tubbing," and whose fate will be to preside over a home infested with vermin, saturated with ill odours, and swarmed with gutter-bred children! Is there no stimulation for lazy people in this horrible contrast?

NATIONAL EDUCATION LEAGUE.

THIS association, which has for its object to secure the education of every child in England and Wales, was projected in January last by a few gentlemen in Birmingham, and has already made such rapid progress that it consists of 1400 members in different parts of the country; and this number increases daily. A provisional committee has been formed, of which Mr. George Dixon, M.P. for Birmingham, is the chairman; and amongst those who have already signified their adhesion to the principles of the league are forty members of Parliament, including the Right Hon. the Earl of Portsmouth, Mr. Jacob Bright, Mr. Carter, Sir C. W. Dilke, Bart., Professor Fawcett, the Hon. Captain Grosvenor, Sir H. Hoare, Mr. Thomas Hughes, the Marquis of Lorne, Mr. Melly, Mr. Miall, Mr. Mundella, Dr. Lyon Playfair, Mr. Edmund Potter, and Mr. P. A. Taylor. Among other distinguished names upon the list may be noticed those of Professor Huxley, Sir John Bowring, Mr. George Dawson, the Rev. Charles Kingsley, the Ven. Archdeacon Sandford, Professor Thorold Rogers, the Rev. Charles Vince, Mr. Baker, Inspector of Factories; Mr. Follett Osler, F.R.S.; Mr. P. H. Rathbone, Liverpool; the Hon. Auberon Herbert; Professor Foster, London University; Dr. Michael Foster, F.R.S.; Dr. Hodgson; Mr. W. Shaen, London; Mr. R. Quain, Surgeon Extraordinary to the Queen; Rev. A. J. D'Orsey, Captain Sherard Osborne, Sir Charles Lyell; Mr. V. Lushington, Q.C.; Sir Rowland Hill, Sir W. V. Guise, the Rev. Dr. Angus, the Rev. Goodwyn Barmby, C. S. Bate, Miss Becker; the Rev. E. A. Brodie, Inspector of Schools; the Hon. G. Brodrick, Lord A. S. Churchill, Sir Jas. Coxe, M.D.; Rev. W. Drake, Chaplain to the Queen; Dr. F. W. Gotch, Dr. John Gray, Professor Jevons, Rev. S. Hansard; Rev. W. W. Howard, Inspector of Schools; Sir Robert Kane, Professor L. Levi, Sir J. Lubbock, Godfrey Lushington; Rev. Dr. McMichael, Professor of Theology; Professor Max Müller; Professor Purdy, F.R.S.; Robert Rawlinson, C.B.; E. J. Reed, Professor Roscoe, Hon. E. L. Stanley, Sir H. Thompson, Rev. Dr. Rowland Williams, Rev. H. B. Wilson, &c. In the circular issued by the league, the means by which the object is to be attained are stated as follows:—1. Local authorities shall be compelled by law to see that sufficient school accommodation is provided for every child in their district. 2. The cost of founding and maintaining such schools as may be required shall be provided out of local rates, supplemented by Government grants. 3. All schools aided by local rates shall be under the management of local authorities and subject to Government inspection. 4. All schools aided by local rates shall be unsectarian. 5. To all schools aided by local rates admission shall be free. 6. School accommodation being provided, the State or the local authorities shall have power to compel the attendance of children of suitable age not otherwise receiving education. Committees have been formed in London and Birmingham; and the example is about to be followed in Manchester, Liverpool, Leeds, Bradford, Sheffield, and other large towns. The first general meeting of the members is to be held at Birmingham, during the second week in October, at which the most distinguished members of the league are expected to attend.

THE WOLVERHAMPTON TOWN COUNCIL are unanimously of opinion that the present is not the most suitable time for promoting a testimonial to Mr. Sheridan, M.P., for his services in the cause of life assurance. Somebody sent a circular to the council soliciting subscriptions for this object; but the members, in the most emphatic manner, refused to hear it read.

DR. LIVINGSTONE.—Mr. H. W. Bates, assistant secretary of the Royal Geographical Society, in a letter discussing the chances of Dr. Livingstone's safety, observes that there is undoubtedly cause for some anxiety in the continued absence of news of Dr. Livingstone's arrival at Ujiji, at which place he was due, according to his own letters, some time in the beginning of 1868. If, however, Sir Roderick Murchison's hypothesis be true, that the traveller discovered (before arriving by water at Ujiji) a western outlet from the lake, and was tempted to follow it downward, this silence would be explained. The subject will be considered by the council of the society when they assemble this autumn, and several able and experienced men have already offered themselves to Sir Roderick Murchison to lead a search expedition to Cazembe.

A "CONFERENCE OF CHRISTIANS."—An Arbroath paper reports that "an annual conference of Christians" has just been held in the City Hall, Perth. The meetings were attended by large numbers of respectable—and, indeed, fashionably-dressed people, many of whom came to the hall in carriages. The audiences were addressed by clergymen and laymen from various parts of the country. At these conferences it appears that prayer is not confined to generalities, but sometimes takes a particular and individual direction, in consequence of special requests being made by members of the audience. The following are some of the special requests which were made at the conference:—"The prayers of the conference are requested for Montrose and Ferryden, also for the neighbouring town of Arbroath, that the Lord would make His mighty power known in the conversion of many souls." "Prayer is earnestly requested for two sets of sisters, that they may be more drawn to each other, and that their mouths may be more opened to speak to each other of Him whom their souls love. Communion of spirit is what is pleaded for. Will any dear children of God bear them upon their hearts during this time of conference?" "The prayers of the Lord's dear people are asked for the conversion of three young officers in her Majesty's service who have been lately entreated to give up the world and trust in Christ. One of them is stationed at Edinburgh." "Prayer is requested for the conversion of a young lady of High-Church tendencies and that she may see the necessity of the new birth. Also for the writer, that she may have grace to be faithful in setting the truth before her with meekness and wisdom." "A young lady desires prayer for the conversion of a former school-fellow, who knows the truth, but is given up to worldliness and gaiety."

CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.—Miss Burdett Coutts takes advantage of disclosures which have lately been made respecting the cruel treatment of cattle at sea to suggest a systematic education of the people in the duty of kindness towards animals. Writing to the *Times*, Miss Burdett Coutts says:—"An American gentleman, Mr. Angell, who has done much in this direction in his own country, earnestly pressed upon me to try to form a society somewhat similar to one established in Massachusetts under the name of the 'Ladies' Humane Society.' I promised to do all I could to promote to good an object through the only public channel I could hope to influence—that of national-school education. But as the present exposure of a serious evil has arisen in your pages, I think I best redeem my promise to Mr. Angell by suggesting, through you, to all persons engaged in teaching, in whatever rank of life, to the President of the Committee of Council for Education, and to the National Society's Board of Education, that some plan should be adopted for inculcating, in a definite manner, principles of humanity towards animals, and a knowledge of their structure, treatment, and value to man." Miss Coutts wonders that the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals does not prosecute the offenders on the evidence of the shocking state which foreign cattle present on landing. These must, on touching our soil, be under the protection of English law, and those who maltreat them fully amenable to the penalties. To this the secretary replies that its officers do prosecute such offenders, but find great difficulty in getting magistrates to convict.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES are shortly to visit Chester and the old city is in a fever of loyalty on the subject. At a meeting on Tuesday £1500 was promised in subscriptions for the purpose of welcoming their Royal Highnesses in a becoming manner. The Mayor put his name down for £500.

PRINCE ARTHUR was expected to arrive on Wednesday at Quebec, and a grand reception was being prepared for him.

MR. GLADSTONE is still, under medical advice, to limit as far as possible any public exertion. The right hon. gentleman is shortly to be in attendance on her Majesty at Balmoral.

CHIEF JUSTICE COCKBURN is at present on a visit to Mr. John Pender, at Minard Castle, Argyleshire. His Lordship voyaged there in his yacht, the *Zouave*. He is finding good sport on the moors, and the *Scotsman* believes, is in the most robust health, with not the faintest intention of resigning his seat on the bench.

COLONEL WILLIAM ADAM ORR, C.B., of the Royal Artillery, died, on the 11th inst., at Weston-Super-Mare. He was appointed to the Madras Artillery in 1826, and had seen considerable active service in India.

MIDLE CHRISTINE NILSSON has arrived in England from Baden-Baden to fulfil a three month's provincial tour.

THE CROP OF OLIVES is reported to be a total failure throughout Portugal.

THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT has followed the example of other Governments, by announcing a policy of "complete abstention" in reference to the Ecumenical Council.

A LARGE NUMBER OF ENGLISH RIFLEMEN have already left for Belgium, to attend the volunteer fêtes and the rifle contests.

THE DIRECTORS OF THE EDINBURGH ACADEMY have appointed Mr. Thomas Harvey, M.A., of Balliol College, Oxford, to be Rector, in the room of the Rev. Dr. Hodgson, resigned.

A NEW BOAT-HOUSE for the use of the college masters has just been erected at the end of the Eton College "playing-fields," nearest "Black Potts," where the Oxford crew practised on the Thames.

MR. ALDERMAN CAUSTON, as Sheriff elect of London and Middlesex, has appointed as his Chaplain the Rev. A. M'Caul, M.A., of St. John's College, Oxford, Rector of St. Magnus the Martyr, London Bridge. Mr. Vallentin, the other Sheriff, has appointed as his Chaplain the Rev. James Jackson, M.A., of Brasenose College, Vicar of St. Sepulchre.

BYRONIC LITERATURE is now all the rage in New York. The bookstore windows are filled with pictures of Byron and editions of his works, in all sorts of bindings at all sorts of prices. There was never a greater demand.

IN LEICESTER there are between 2000 and 3000 female voters on the municipal register this year, the total on the Burgess roll being about 16,000. There has been for some years a strong women's-rights party in Leicester, and we are told that the electresses of one ward have already formed themselves into an association to make the most of their newly-acquired privilege.

THE TRUSTEES OF THE HUDSON ANNUITY FUND have invested the £4000 placed at their disposal at the rate of 13 per cent, so as to yield Mr. Hudson an annuity of £520. A further sum of £1000 is expected to be realised.

A NUMBER OF FINE PEARLS discovered at the fisheries carried on in the vicinity of Nicol Bay, Western Australia, have been exhibited in Melbourne. They are of great size and beauty, the most valuable among them resembling in shape and dimensions the eyeball of a large fish. This is said to be worth upwards of £200.

PEACHES are extraordinarily scarce this year in France. The market-gardeners of Montreuil, the great source of the Paris supply, estimate the deficiency of their products, as compared with an average crop, at £50,000 sterling.

A TERRIBLE ACCIDENT, attended with a sad loss of life, has taken place at Königsberg by the railings of a bridge giving way during some festivities in honour of a visit of the King of Prussia.

MAY AND HALL, two men who are charged with having been guilty of a series of frauds upon wine merchants in the City, were, on Monday, brought up at the Mansion House for final examination, and committed for trial.

DR. KIERAN, Roman Catholic Primate of Ireland, died on Wednesday night in Dundalk.

A LABOURER NAMED M'GRATH, sixty years of age, was murdered, on Saturday morning, about a mile from the Cashel police station. The crime is attributed to a private feud, and three men are in custody on suspicion of having been concerned in it.

THE COLLIERIES EXPLOSION NEAR PHILADELPHIA turns out not to have been attended with results so fatal as was at first stated, the number of deaths being 110, instead of 200. The disaster has made fifty-nine widows and 109 orphans, for whose relief a subscription is being raised.

THE FAMOUS BURGUNDY VINEYARD OF ROMANEE CONTI, which was lately purchased by the landlord of the buffet at the Dijon station for 239,500*fr.*, has just been resold at an enormous profit. M. Duvaunt-Bloch, a member of the Council-General of the Côte-d'Or, has purchased it for 312,000*fr.*

THE CATTLE DISEASE is officially declared to be extinct in Prussia.

MADAME GODOY, relict of the famous Prince of Peace, Duke d'Alcudia, who was deprived of his titles by the Spanish Cortes, has just died, in Madrid, at the age of ninety-two, from an accident. Her dress caught fire, and she succumbed to the effect of the burns.

THE TELEGRAPH CABLE between Caithness and Orkney was successfully laid in the Pentland Firth on Monday. The distance across the firth is eight miles, and the time occupied was only two hours and a half.

THE JOINT COMMISSION for the settlement of the claims of the Hudson Bay and Puget Sound Companies has awarded to those companies 450,000 dols. and 200,000 dols. respectively. According to an official statement, the Government expenses for the fiscal year ending Sept. 1 are 585,000,000 dols.

THE ROYAL MAIL STEAMER ATRATO has arrived at the Motherbank, off the Isle of Wight, with cases of yellow fever on board. A supplement to the *Gazette*, issued on Wednesday night, contains an order for the Atrato to remain for the present in quarantine.

SIR JOSEPH HAWLEY'S PERO GOMEZ won the Great St. Leger Stakes at Doncaster on Wednesday—the favourite, Mr. Johnstone's Pretender, coming in fifth, and far in the rear. Wells rode the winner.

JOS. ROWLEY, a licensed retail brewer, was summoned at the Oldbury Police Court, on Tuesday, for having in his possession a quantity of opium, being a substitute for malt, contrary to the statute. The information was laid under the 56th Geo. III., c. 58, by which the offender is liable to a penalty not exceeding £200. The Bench fined the defendant £50, with a recommendation that it be reduced to £10.

THE JOINT COMMITTEE OF LONDON AND PROVINCIAL POLICY-HOLDERS of the Albert Company agreed to a series of important resolutions on Wednesday. They rejected the plan of reconstruction, and called for a compulsory winding up by two liquidators to be chosen by the committee, and under the supervision of a committee of seven policy-holders. Seven gentlemen representing London and the largest provincial towns were nominated for the purpose.

THE GENTLEMEN OF THE ENGLISH AND FOREIGN PRESS who subscribed to hire the steamer *Sunflower* on the occasion of the late boat-race between Oxford and Harvard Universities have, through Messrs. Clement Brothers, of *Bell's Life*, forwarded to the National Life-Boat Institution a kind contribution of £12 10*s.*, being a moiety of the balance of their subscriptions after paying for the hire of the steamer.

AN INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WORKING MEN, now holding its fourth congress at Bale, has passed a resolution declaring that society has a right to abolish individual property in the soil. This was carried by a majority of 54. Another declaration was then put, stating that it was necessary to abolish individual property in the soil, and this was carried by the same majority.

THE GREAT COLLIERIES LOCK-OUT in South Yorkshire has been brought to an end. On Saturday a conference took place between representatives of the Denaby Main and of the South Yorkshire Miners' Union, with the Mayor of Sheffield and Mr. Mundella, M.P., as mutual friends; and it was decided that union or non-union men should be employed in the colliery without discrimination—the point on which the dispute arose—and that as soon as possible old workmen should be re-employed.

JOHN WAIN was charged at Salford, on Monday, with attempting to commit suicide in the river Irwell. He had thrown himself into the water, and would in all probability have been drowned, but for a dog which a gentleman urged into the water, and which succeeded in dragging the man to the bank. He had previously attempted to cut his throat with a razor, but this was taken from him, whereupon he went to the river.

THE MEMORIAL-STONE OF A FEVER HOSPITAL, the erection of which is due chiefly to the munificence of some of the residents of the district, was laid at Bradford, last week, by Mr. A. Harris, one of the originators of the scheme, and a contributor of £3800 towards the cost of the building. Mr. Titus Salt gave £5000, and has also promised to endow the institution with £50 a year towards its maintenance. The entire cost of the hospital will be about £11,000.

MR. JAMES EDWARD ROBINSON, the resident manager of the Leeds and County Bank, at Pontefract, committed suicide on Tuesday morning, by shooting himself with a pistol. Mr. Robinson, who has left seven children, was formerly Mayor of the borough, and was Alderman at the time of his death. Latterly he has been labouring under depression of mind, but on what account it is not known. Several of the directors of the bank made an investigation into the state of his accounts, which were found to be perfectly correct.

THE LOUNGER.

THE death of Mr. E. C. Egerton having made a vacancy in the representation of East Cheshire, there is now going on a keen contest for the seat, which, as it presents some peculiar features, is worth noting. In the first place, this part of the county has hitherto been a close Tory preserve, there not having been a real contest in North Cheshire (of which the eastern section is a new division, created by the Reform Bill of 1867) for at least twenty-two years, and the Liberal effort to break up the monopoly is consequently a bold stroke. Two candidates were started in 1868; but they retired without going to the poll, leaving the Conservatives to walk over the course. Now, however, a determined attempt to get a share in the representation of the district for the Liberal electors is being made, and I hope sincerely that it will succeed. In the next place, the constituency is of a mixed character, having, although mainly agricultural, a considerable and growing commercial and manufacturing element within it; and it is this fact, I suppose, which has emboldened the Liberals to make their present effort. But the most remarkable thing of all is this, that the county squire, who have hitherto ruled the roost in Cheshire, have been unable to find a man among themselves "fit for the place," and have had to go to Manchester for commercial men to represent them. This is true as regards both political parties, the Liberals having found a champion in Sir Edward William Watkin, formerly M.P. for Stockport; and the Conservatives putting forward Mr. William Cunliffe Brooks, a Manchester banker. Of the latter little is known beyond his own district; but with Sir Edward we are all acquainted. He had a seat in the House for some years, is a prominent man in the railway world, and has always been a professed Liberal. It is true that he was suspected of a taint of Adullamy in 1866, but appears, like others, to have repented of that bit of backsliding, and to have accepted the full Liberal—even Radical—creed. He is an ardent supporter of Mr. Gladstone, is in favour of such measures for Ireland—especially on the land question—as will render that country prosperous, feeling assured that contentment will follow. Sir Edward is also an advocate of the ballot, and in favour of a thorough system of education, including compulsory attendance at school where parents fail to provide instruction for their children. A member of the Church of England, he is yet opposed to putting his hand, under any pretence, into other people's pockets for the support of his religion. Such is a brief outline of Sir Edward's political creed, and I think he may be pronounced a very sound Liberal. As for Mr. Brooks, it is difficult to know exactly where to have him. He makes lofty pretensions about taking "a great interest in education," being "delighted to witness progress in all safe directions," and so forth; but, like most Tory candidates nowadays, he is purposely vague in his enunciation of principles. But as men may be known by the company they keep, a key to Mr. Brooks's principles and the sort of progress he delights in is supplied by the facts that he is supported by the Tory squirearchy of Cheshire, and declares himself an adherent of Mr. Disraeli. There, I think, we have enough to settle Mr. Brooks's status in politics. There are one or two things more, however, which I deem worth noting in connection with this gentleman. He has only, so far as I have seen, attended one meeting as yet, and that was a sort of private gathering in the Conservative Hall, Stockport, on Monday, on which occasion Mr. Brooks made some rather odd declarations. Besides indulging in the usual stupid Tory claptrap about the present "Radical Government having designs as regards the Irish land question that amount to revolution"—a point on which he can possibly know nothing, since no designs whatever have yet been revealed by the Cabinet—the honourable candidate made the following ominous declarations:—"He had come forward, he said, 'determined to win'—words which sound suspiciously like the language wont to be employed at Norwich, Beverley and Bridgewater, in each of which rich local bankers have played prominent parts; but he added the still more suggestive declaration that 'he wanted not one halfpenny of their money. All he wanted was that they should work hard, do the work well, and be well paid.' What does that mean, I wonder. I should be sorry to impute impure intentions beforehand to Mr. Brooks, or any other man; but I cannot understand what he can mean by holding out promises of being 'well paid' to the electors of Cheshire if they manage to 'win the election.' To say the least, these words have an ugly sound, especially as coming from a rich banker, who declares himself ready to 'find all the money' if the electors will do the work. Mr. Brooks, however, holds out another money bait to the rural electors of East Cheshire, and it takes this form:—During the prevalence of the cattle-plague, a few years ago, the district suffered severe losses, more severe, it is alleged, than any other part of the country; and Mr. Brooks proffers his help, if elected, in getting the farmers compensation for their losses out of the imperial exchequer—that is, at the expense of the community at large, who have already had to pay for the ravages of the cattle-plague in the shape of enhanced prices for food, while the agriculturists as a body have been recompensed for the cattle they lost by the higher price they got for those that escaped. It may be fair that the farmers of East Cheshire should be indemnified for the special extra losses they sustained; but it is the agricultural class over the kingdom, by means of a rate in aid, as Sir E. Watkin proposes, and not the general community, that ought to do so. This, however, is only another instance of the Tory tactics of flying to the imperial exchequer whenever money is wanted, particularly for agricultural purposes; so I for one decidedly object to Mr. Brooks, and stick to my old rule in such cases—namely, to vote for the Liberal and keep out the Tory; and I hope a majority of the electors of East Cheshire will be "in a concatenation accordingly."

Sir William Drake, lately knighted, is a member of the firm of Burham, Dalrymple, and Drake, Parliamentary agents and solicitors. Sir William was for several years the Government election agent. He succeeded the well-known Mr. Coppock. Sir William does not now hold this appointment. The Government agents are now Messrs. Wyatt and Hoskyns, Parliamentary agents. The *Saturday Review* thinks that the service which the holders of this office render to the Government ought not to be rewarded in this way. But what services does the Government election agent now render? Some years ago the election agent was not unfrequently mixed up in some very queer transactions. This cannot be denied; and, if the Prime Minister of the day had advised her Majesty to knight the election agent of that time, he would, perhaps, have deserved censure. But my belief is that all this has changed, and that Mr. Drake had some hand in bringing about the change. It is difficult to learn what are the special duties of the Government election agent. Generally he is the legal adviser of the Parliamentary Secretary of the Treasury; and, as such, can he take any steps not sanctioned by the Secretary? If not, we may be sure Mr. Drake did not go far wrong, for whilst he held the post Mr. Brand was the Treasury Secretary, and his fair fame no breath of suspicion ever besmirched. If, when Mr. Brand retired from office, her Majesty had given him a Baronetcy, would anybody have hinted that the services which he had rendered did not deserve such a reward? Certainly not. Well, then, if Mr. Drake has done nothing but what Mr. Brand sanctioned, there can be no harm in giving a knighthood to Mr. Drake. By-the-way, Mr. Hayter, whom Mr. Brand succeeded, was honoured with a Baronetcy, though he held office in those past times to which I have alluded.

"What is a Parliamentary agent?" I think I hear some of my readers ask. "You have spoken of Parliamentary agents twice; tell us what you mean?" To some of my readers this may seem a silly question. "Parliamentary agents!" they would say; "why, surely everybody knows what a Parliamentary agent is?" But it is not so. I will venture to say that nine out of ten of her Majesty's subjects do not know what a Parliamentary agent is. Well, then, I will tell them; and I am the more ready to do this because every year the business of Parliamentary agents is decreasing, and there are signs that some day the Parliamentary

agent proper may become extinct. A Parliamentary agent proper—I will tell you soon why I use the word proper—is a man whose professional vocation it is to work private bills through Parliament. Thus, if you wanted to make a railway you must, to enable you to do it, get a private Act of Parliament. And to do this you must first employ a solicitor, and he must employ a Parliamentary agent. A solicitor cannot appear before Committees of the Houses of Parliament, but only Parliamentary agents, recognised and registered. And now I will show you how it is that the business of Parliamentary agents is decreasing. First, the bulk of a Parliamentary agent's business has been the getting railway bills through Parliament. Naturally, this business must come to an end. England has pretty nearly now as many railways as it needs, and great many more than pay. Here, then, the largest part of the Parliamentary agent's business, and the most lucrative, is going or gone. Then certain general public Acts have taken away much of their business. Thus, formerly, if a town wished to get itself drained, lighted, supplied with water, and generally improved, it had to get a private Act to enable it to do all this; but now everything can be done, under the Health of Towns Act, without special legislation. Again, if the inhabitants of a town containing several parishes wanted to unite the parishes for poor-law purposes, a private Act was necessary; but now the Poor-Law Board can do it. Lastly, private Acts for the management of charities were common; but when Mr. Forster shall have carried his educational scheme no more Acts will be needed; and so, you see, private Parliamentary business is quietly slipping away from the agents. Only a few years ago 400 or 500 private bills were annually registered; last year the number was under 200, and scarcely any of these were what is called "fighting bills"—that is, bills sharply contested—and so not very profitable. But we need not expend much pity on the agents, for they have pretty well feathered their nests, and most of them are exceedingly rich. Some of them have, indeed, risen to be large landed proprietors. The Parliamentary bar, too, has suffered, of course. What fortunes have been made by Parliamentary practice! It was, indeed, for many years a bird which laid golden eggs; but the eggs now are few, far between, and, compared with what they were, very small.

And now, a line or two explanatory of the word "proper." The Parliamentary agents proper are those described above. But there is a large number of people who, though they call themselves Parliamentary agents, are not legally such. These have nothing to do with private bills. They turn their attention to public legislation generally. Their business is to agitate for or against public bills, and they are employed by the classes which said public bills affect. Thus, supposing you are a tradesman, and there is a bill before the House which if carried will injure your trade, you would, of course, desire to have your grievance brought before the House; but how to get it done you know no more than a child. In such case, what better can you do than employ one of these so-called Parliamentary agents? He will tell you how to do it, and do it for you, perhaps, better than a regular agent, and at a tithe of the money which a regular agent would want. He will draw up a statement for you, get it printed and put into the hands of members, and get some gentleman whom he knows to bring it under the notice of the House. A good many men earn an honest penny in this way, and some of them are very intelligent men, and do their work well. They are, too, a necessary class, and do often prevent injustice. Ministers of the Crown are not unfrequently indebted to them for occasional hints; and many a private member has got credit for knowledge which he obtained from these outsiders.

Apologies to this, the shepherd farmers in Cumberland and Westmorland are very sore about the dog tax. Until the last Act upon the subject was passed shepherds' dogs were not charged with this tax; now a tax of 5s. a head is levied upon all dogs alike, whether they are kept for pleasure or business, and this the shepherds think very hard. And so it is. A shepherd must have dogs. He never keeps less than two; he cannot drive a flock of sheep along the road without two dogs, one on each flank of the flock, to prevent the sheep from running away up the mountains, as they are very apt to do; and, if the flock be large, he must have three. But the principal work of the shepherds' dogs is to collect the sheep pastured on the open mountains. Without dogs this could not be done. No number of men could track them. A small sheep-farmer whom I occasionally talk with keeps six dogs. He cannot, he tells me, do with less, and every year he has to pay the taxgatherer 30s. But how is this apropos to the subject of the outside Parliamentary agents? Well, in this way:—If the shepherds could have got this grievance brought before the House, I think that it would not have been inflicted; and if one of the results of this unjust tax can be made known next Session, I think that the House may feel disposed to repeal it. What that result is the farmer shall tell you. "When our dogs weren't taxed, we always kept them away from the game; but we do not do it now, you may depend on't. More 't' other way, Sir. I pay as much for my dogs as Mr. — does for his pointers."

A correspondent dating from Perth writes to correct some mistakes which I made in my remarks upon the Perth banquet. He wrote to me several months ago to give me some information about the Perthshire election. He says in his last letter that I received the information ungraciously. I wish now to inform him that I had no intention to be ungracious. I was obliged to him for his information, and I am again under obligation to him for the correction of the mistakes in my late article. The Lord Rollo whom I described as Lord Rollo of Duncrub is, my correspondent tells me, really Lord Rollo and Dunning. He was created a British peer last Session. The creation escaped my notice, and I naturally looked to "Debrett." His Lordship is a High Churchman, hence his enmity to Established Churches. He was, as his ancestors were for centuries, a Tory; but within a week of the polling day he came round full circle, and is now, says my correspondent, "a pure follower of Mr. Bright." Strange, this. What whirligig times we live in! I said in my article that the Whig magnates looked at first coldly on Mr. Parker's incursion into Perthshire. My correspondent tells me that there are no Whig magnates in that county. I meant, though, not the Whig magnates in Perthshire specially—of them I know nothing; but certain Whigs of Scotland, perhaps not magnates, certainly not landed magnates, who, I happen to know, did not look favourably upon Mr. Parker's bold attempt. My correspondent gives a long roll-call of Tory county magnates who opposed Mr. Parker, an array so formidable that to us "southrons," who know what power such swells have in England, Mr. Parker's triumph appears almost a miracle. Lastly, I classed the Marquis of Dalhousie as a member of the Scottish Church. How I could make this mistake I know not. For the moment I was oblivious. For I, more than most Englishmen, was well informed on the subject of the disruption. One of the deputation sent over here to make known the case of the secessionists lived with me for some weeks; and when he left I had the pleasure of handing him over £200 collected in the neighbourhood as a contribution to the New Free Church funds. So, if I wounded my correspondent, let him be appeased, and, in fancy, shake hands across the Border.

THE LITERARY LOUNGER.
THE MAGAZINES.

I see it announced that Mrs. Stowe is going to reply in the next number of *Macmillan* to the strictures of which she has been the subject apropos of the Byron story. So much the worse—for, writing in haste, she will probably write without the judicial calmness called for by the occasion. Why couldn't she wait another month, and communicate in the mean time with the representatives of the family? I hope it will be remembered that in this column I have confined myself solely to condemning her for telling her story at all in this loose, unauthenticated, uncalled-for way. It is easy to see at a glance the one point upon which the stress of doubt and the need of positive evidence alike bear down; and the obvious law of such a case is—Furnish us with positive proof upon that one point, or hold your tongue. Even if the positive proof upon that one point were forthcoming, it would not follow

that Mrs. Stowe was justified in publishing the story in this way. It is no justification for her that Lady Byron told it herself to others. There is, as I said before, one only possible justification—namely, that Lady Byron confided to her the story, with full liberty to do as she liked with it, under certain specified conditions, or with no conditions at all. Even this, however, would not solve the question of expediency, magnanimity, delicacy, or common fairness as against her, or as against Lady Byron. As far as can now be judged, that question is solved against both. The partisans of Byron are made more partisan than ever; and some of the defences put forward have been absolutely startling in their disclosures of moral ineptitude on the part of their writers. On the other hand, those who have accepted the narrative without scruple have committed themselves, in the most unnecessary manner, to judgments which trample on every principle of natural justice and sound criticism. To say that if certain facts are proved, certain poems must be "branded" and all faith in the poet renounced, is to defy the first principles of moral and literary criticism. But it is, after all, the laws of evidence which have been most persistently defied. I am here offering no opinion upon the main question; but I do affirm that the word of Lady Byron is of no value whatever, if she had been ten times as good a woman as she was; and anything so ineffectually silly as that passage in Lady Barnard's diary I scarcely ever read. Most men of the world have happened to read the sort of letters usually written by women in cases of domestic trouble; have laughed, not without scorn, at their one-sided credulity, their astounding exaggerations and lachrymose epithets, and their utterly reckless statements of "fact." Lady Barnard's diary is just the usual thing—"Oh! the wretch!" "The coldness and malignity of his heart!" "Byron, you are forgiven! Never more shall you hear of it again!" This sort of trash bears the very impress of those virtuous hysterics under the influence of which women in general forget that there is such a thing as truth at all. By-the-by, how is it no one has pointed out the way in which Mrs. Stowe fell into her grand error of date? Probably she will contend, in her second paper, that the life of Byron was public property; that it was a necessary work to try and diminish his influence; and that that could only be done by telling the truth. It would be sufficient to reply—the truth can never be told; it is incommunicable. A further reply I defer.

Let me call special attention to an article in the *Fortnightly* on Heine, by Mr. J. D. Lester. I doubt if, in all English literature, there is anything extant which conveys so much information in so small a compass.

I see advertised, as about to be published by Mr. Tom Hood, "A Guide to Versification, with a Dictionary of Rhymes." The prospectus runs thus:—

This guide to English Versification will give the strict rules and correct rhymes for that style of composition, touching upon the peculiar requisites of song-writing, and the necessities of comic and burlesque verse. The Dictionary of Rhymes will distinguish between such words as are admissible in serious verse; such as, being archaic and Shakespearean, will be only available for exceptional use; and those which will simply answer the purpose of comic verses. Classical measures will be examined, with a view to their adaptability to English verse, taking into consideration the relations of quantity and accent.

This is a most comprehensive programme, and I shall look for the book with great interest.

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

THE GAIETY bill has been modified by the production of a new extravaganza by Mr. Alfred Thompson, the author of the successful "Columbus." The new burlesque is called "Linda di Chamouni; or, Not Formosa," a very vague title, but quite in keeping with the plot of the piece. It is simply a *pot-pourri* of half-a-dozen operatic characters, selected from different works, and including Azucena, Don Basilio, Adalgisa, Figaro, and others. It is a pity that Mr. Thompson has confined the joke to the mere extraction of the names of the characters of different operas; he would have done better, I think, to have invested them with some of the distinguishing characteristics of the originals. This, indeed, is done in the case of Don Basilio, but not to any marked degree in the other characters. The piece has altogether, I think, been rather hardly treated by the press. It is not brilliant, but it is pretty; the songs are "pat," the music skilfully selected and skilfully executed, and the dresses are very handsome. The dialogue is much too cumbersome for a piece of such slight pretensions, and might easily and effectively be reduced. The scenery is not up to the Gaiety standard. Miss Farren is the life and soul of the piece. She dances through her part with the grace and vivacity that are her special characteristics. She cannot sing at all, but her songs are all effective, nevertheless; while those of other ladies in the piece who can sing go for nothing. The secret of this is that behind Miss Farren's face there is a brain at work—a brain that will prompt her to much better work than that which she is now doing. The representatives of the other characters—Miss Loseby, Mr. Maclean, Mr. Eldred, and Mr. Tee-dale—were equal to the duties they had undertaken. The piece was well received, and the author called for. The Prince of Wales was present on the first night, and waited till the end of the new piece.

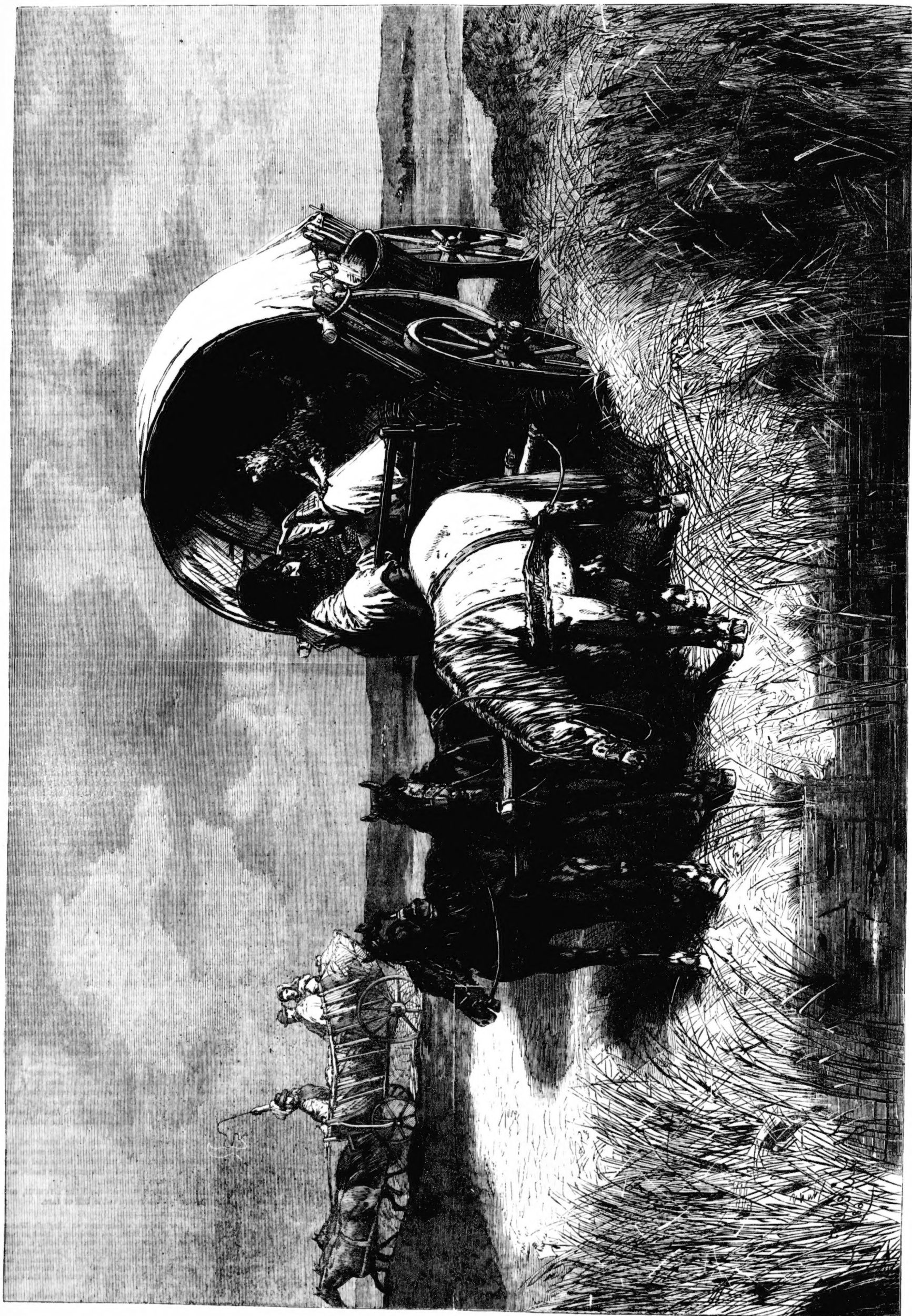
At the CHARING-CROSS, which has sprung up into renewed vitality and is doing a brisk little business, two new farces have been produced. One, called "Little Fibs," avowedly from the French, is by a Mr. E. Berry; the other, "Room for the Ladies," is a posthumous piece by the late Mr. Wooler. Both pieces are extremely slight. In "Little Fibs" we are shown how a young lady of the "hoyden" order, acting upon her papa's misguided statement that little fibs are sometimes necessary and always harmless, indulges in her new-found luxury to such an extent that all the members of her family are set by the ears. The piece plays briskly, and is quite successful. In "Room for the Ladies," a very old idea is very clumsily worked out. The ladies of a family assume the avocations usually followed by its masculine members—they ride, shoot, fish, hunt, and join volunteer corps; while the gentlemen are relegated to the duties of the kitchen and the feminine occupations of embroidery and tapestry-work. The fallacy under which all this takes place is completely shown up by Mr. Dulcimer Brown, a young man of strong common-sense, but a Yankeeified way of expressing it, and all parties resume their normal functions. One gentleman, Mr. L. Munro, who played a young man who is treated as a little boy, surprised me by the quiet drollery he threw into the very stupid part he had to play. Mr. Munro is a stranger, I think, to the London stage; but if he can play other parts as he played that of Charles Manley he will not be a stranger to it very long.

A singular and picturesque innovation has been made at the PRINCE OF WALES'S, by placing the orchestra under the stage and filling up the place it lately occupied by imitation ferns and water. The whole theatre has been re-decorated with exquisite taste, and it is certainly the prettiest theatre in London.

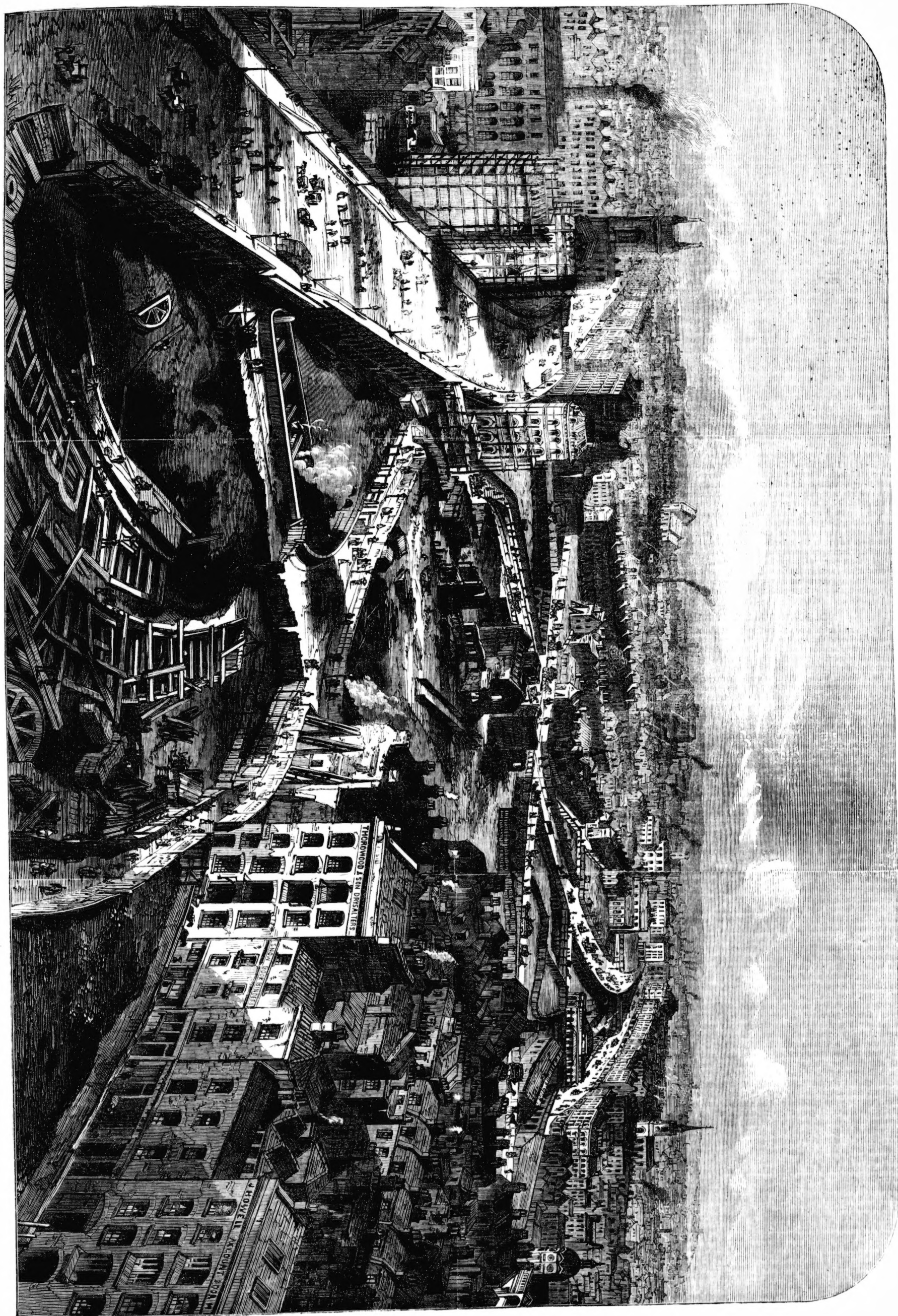
Mr. James Anderson has taken a long lease of the LYCEUM, and opens there next Christmas with a remarkable bill of fare.

MR. GEORGE WHEELER, her Majesty's fisherman at Virginia Water, died at the Fisherman's Cottage, Flying Burn, on Saturday. He had been in the service of the Queen twenty-eight years, and was previously a waterman in the employ of Mr. Hester, boatbuilder, Eton. He had taught the young Princes of Cumberland and Cambridge the art of swimming, and was a great favourite of her Majesty and the Royal family, on whom he always attended when they went fishing in any of the waters of the Great Park. Mr. Wheeler was about sixty years of age.

EAST CHESHIRE ELECTION.—The campaign in East Cheshire is now fairly opened. Sir E. Watkin continues to address public meetings, and is well received. On Monday Mr. W. Cunliffe Brooks, the Conservative candidate, made his first appearance at a private gathering of friends in Stockport. He informed the company that "the Radical party were about to enunciate a policy which would vitally affect the constitution of the kingdom;" and this was, apparently, given as his reason for coming forward. Mr. Bromley Davenport, M.P., recommended Mr. Brooks as a strong and staunch Conservative, and he was accepted by the meeting.



ASLEEP ON THE ROAD: A RURAL SCENE IN TRANSYLVANIA.



THE HOLBORN VALLEY VIADUCT, FROM ST. SEPTICHER'S CHURCH.

ASLEEP ON THE ROAD IN TRANSYLVANIA.

To the artist who is in search of the really picturesque, life in the primitive districts of Transylvania offers attractions seldom to be found elsewhere; and although the fierce appearance of the people, and the comparatively rude style of living and lodging to be found in the remoter parts of Hungary, are at first a little startling to the ordinary traveller, it will be found that the provisions, even in the humblest kind of inns, are now pretty good; the cooking tolerable, and the wines remarkable for their purity. Of course, as regards the latter item we are getting to be well acquainted with Hungarian wines, as well as with Vienna beer; but to drink either beverage on the spot is a better experiment than to trust to its adaptation to a different climate and entirely altered conditions. Bread or egg soup—rather a tasteless potage—boiled beef, chicken fried in lard and cut into small pieces, or fowl stewed with red pepper (the national dish in Hungary); veal in all shapes, and of so frequent recurrence that one wonders that there are any full-grown oxen in the country; sauerkraut; chamois venison, which is getting rare; black game; and, crowning treat of all, the exquisite trout bred in the cold, snow-fed rivulets of the Alps, and kept in fish-tanks. Any three of these dishes might make a valuable dinner; and even the rude wooden furniture, the strange apartment, and the wild-looking loungers who hang about the country inns, are compensated for by the talent displayed in cookery, and the attractive costumes and manners of the people. These comforts, however, are only to be obtained in certain places, where Austrian institutions are partially adopted. Where the true primitive customs of Transylvania are retained, the larders of the inns are ill provided, the apartments reeking with dirt, and the attendants entirely indifferent to the claims of customers. Happily for the innocent tourist, most of the inns are now kept by Germans, who better understand their business, and are more indifferent than the Hungarian to the dignity required for the support of national vanity. It is requisite, however, for the traveller, who would realise what the Hungarian people are, to go beyond the frontier of cookery, hotels, and civilised comforts, to a district such as that represented in our Engraving, where the people drink their beer from those queer pewter-covered glass pots which are just becoming fashionable in London, but are quite common among the Transylvanian peasantry; where the low ceilings of the village inns are dark with years of tobacco-smoke and the flare of fat candles, and the floors are dank with much expectation; where gaunt dogs stalk up and down the stairs, and the seldom-changed sheets of the bed are sewn to the counterpane; where the furniture consists of a few rude wooden chairs and tables, and sundry chests and boxes of timber, one of the latter forming the bedstead; and where the landlord and the waiter leave their guests to shift for themselves by declining to answer any call which is not repeated from the window of the room which overhangs the courtyard where they lounge away their time. In the country around—the vast plains where half-tamed horses herd, or the fierce, red-eyed cattle are tended by a wild-looking figure in a sheepskin coat; the woods where sheep are driven to the spots of pasture by a wretched-looking family who live in a hut close by; the dense thickets whence, as you journey along the rude road, strange-looking men stand looking at you with eyes gleaming like those of some startled animal—the artist may find subjects for his canvas; and, though there have been great improvements during the last five years, and the better class of peasantry are remarkable less for their squalid poverty than the quaint modes of their daily life, there still exist in some of the farther districts of Transylvania herds of uncivilised beings who represent the savage tribes who once peopled the land and made it an unknown country to ordinary voyagers.

HOLBORN VALLEY VIADUCT.

We have on more than one occasion published descriptive details of the Holborn Valley Viaduct; but, as this great structure and most valuable improvement is to be completed and opened for public use in a few weeks, it will not be uninteresting to give a connected résumé of the main features of the work.

The Holborn Valley Viaduct and improvements form one of the three great changes of modern London, and well deserve to rank side by side with the other two—the Thames Embankment and the vast Main Drainage scheme. The latter two have been executed by the Metropolitan Board of Works; the credit of the former is due entirely to the exertions of the City Improvements Committee, who certainly have planned their work well, and, above all, have shown most commendable alacrity in executing it when once the plans were decided on. In this respect their example is well worthy imitation by those entrusted with the completion of the Embankment. How the Holborn valley was ever allowed to exist so long is a sort of Corporation mystery. When it is done away with, people will wonder how it was ever endured when its inconveniences were patent to all who saw it. In Paris it would not have been allowed to exist a single year after it had once become a thoroughfare. That it has been an all-important thoroughfare from the earliest times we know. A return of the annual amount of traffic passing up and down the hill just thirty years ago shows that it was used by 20,000,000 pedestrians, nearly 900,000 horsemen, 157,000 hackney coaches, 370,000 carts, 78,000 stage coaches, 82,000 carriages, 135,000 omnibuses, 460,000 chaises and taxed carts, and 354,000 cabs. Probably within the last thirty years the traffic has actually doubled, except in the matter of stage coaches; and all this has been dragged up and hustled down one of the great main avenues of the City at an incline of 1 ft. in 15 ft. It really seems incredible. That there have been almost endless propositions to improve, or, at least, alleviate, this public nuisance is, of course, well known. Long ago Alderman Skinner, who built Skinner-street, proposed to build a bridge from Snow-hill across the valley to Holborn; and one of the late Mr. Charles Pearson's improvements was to raise the valley 17 ft. Nothing, however, was attempted beyond complaining, and the usual protest that "something must be done." So Holborn remained very much as it was when the "Old Bourne," or river, from which Holborn takes its modern name, ran through its valley, and underwent little material improvement from the days when Henry V. paved it at his own expense, because "it was so deep and miry that many perils and hazards were thereby occasioned as well to the King's carriages passing that way as to his subjects." There are, in fact, few thoroughfares about the metropolis of greater antiquity than Holborn. All its associations and antiquities, however, could not save Holborn from the march of modern improvement. The long threatening of years came true at last. Designs were called for to construct a viaduct and improve the whole neighbourhood. Most of those sent in were very good; but the committee decided to choose that of Mr. William Haywood, not as the cheapest, but as in their opinion the best and most comprehensive. Since then Mr. Haywood has pushed on the works with most creditable activity and success. To speak of it, however, only as the Holborn viaduct would be to mislead the public. The viaduct is an important portion, but still only a portion, of a great work. Mr. Haywood's plans, in fact, contemplate the formation of what may be called a new district, with three new streets independent of the viaduct itself. When all is completed, these new thoroughfares and their approaches will be a boon to the metropolis second to none in the way of street improvement.

The Holborn viaduct itself will be 1400 ft. long from end to end, and a little over 80 ft. wide. Of this space 50 ft. is given to a roadway throughout, and 15 ft. on each side for footways. The viaduct forms a gentle curve from the western end of Newgate-street, and then is continued in a straight line to the western side of Farringdon-street, occupying nearly the whole of the space which recently formed Skinner-street and a small portion of the churchyard of St. Sepulchre. From Farringdon-street westward it is carried by a gentle curve to the end of Hatton-garden, occupying the sites of the houses which formerly stood on the south side of Holborn-hill, the greater portion of the old roadway, and a large part of the churchyard of St. Andrew's, Holborn. For all purposes of traffic the road may be called a level, only sufficient

inclination being given to ensure the surface drainage running off. The viaduct is built on a kind of double system of arches. Those which support the roadway are plain solid double archways of 24 ft. span, and built of the same strength as ordinary railway arches. The footways, however, are supported by a system of, so to speak, cellular arches. These are 10 ft. in diameter, and rise from one tier to three tiers. At the commencement of the incline, where the dip down is slight, there is only one tier or ground floor of these footway arches; but as the descent goes on increasing with the slope of the hill, it becomes necessary to add another tier of arches above the first, in order to keep the surface of the viaduct at its proper level. Thus, at one, the deepest, part at the foot of the hill there are three tiers of these cellular arches, one above another. All these arches are lofty, clean, and well ventilated, and will be used as cellars to the warehouses which will be built up by the side of the viaduct. In front of the cellars, and between them and beneath the main road on each side, runs a subway along the whole length of the viaduct. This subway is 11½ ft. high and 7 ft. wide. It has three rows of cast-iron brackets along its sides—one for gaspipes, one for water, and one for telegraph wires. Thus these at any moment can be reached and repaired without in any way interfering with the footway above. The sewage is provided for along the centre roadway in a similar manner. All the brickwork of these portions of the structure is most massive. In some parts the rings of the arches are as much as eight bricks thick—an ample guarantee of their strength, when it is remembered that the Board of Trade only exact five rings of brickwork for a railway arch. In every case the foundations for the masonry have been taken down to the London clay, and bedded in 4 ft. of solid concrete. In some cases the clay was easily reached; in others more than 30 ft. had to be excavated before it was got at. This was mostly where the bed of the Old Bourne river and Fleet Ditch had left its deposits, and made the whole soil soft and spongy. About 20 ft. below the present surface of Farringdon-street the top of a strong abutment wall was reached. This was, no doubt, one of the abutment walls of the Old Bourne bridge, and the supposition seems to be almost established by the fact of a quantity of piles and old strut timbers which had apparently once formed part of a bridge being found close by it. These pine-logs, though they must now have lain some centuries in the earth, were as sound and good as on the day they were cut. Passing the corner of St. Sepulchre's churchyard a few bones had to be removed; but at St. Andrew's churchyard the soil was absolutely thick with them, so thick, indeed, that it is estimated that the remains of nearly 2000 persons were exhumed and sent away for re-interment at Ilford Cemetery. In the great mass of cases these were mere bones, but there were frequent instances where the bodies were perfect and unchanged, though the coffins had decayed. In one case, that of a man, the clothes were quite perfect; in another, that of a lady who had been buried considerably over a century, the lace on the grave clothes was perfect and only slightly changed in colour. In both these, as in many other cases, the bodies were absolutely perfect in every feature, and were simply dry and like tanned leather. The soil, however, as it was disturbed, emitted so obnoxious an effluvia that the most powerful disinfectants had to be used. At the corner of Hatton-garden, and only about five feet below the pavement, was found the skeleton of a very tall man, who was buried in massive link iron fetters, like those which hang over the doors of Newgate. These were very rusty, but firmly riveted on to the skeleton. It was most probably the skeleton of some murderer, who, according to ancient custom, was hanged and buried in chains on the spot where his crime was committed. These are all the discoveries which have been made, though it was expected that some interesting relics of bygone times might have been brought to light.

One of the prettiest features of the whole viaduct is the bridge which will cross Farringdon-street. It is to be in three spans, and its total length will be 117 ft. and its width 80 ft. It is what is called a skew bridge—that is to say, it crosses the road diagonally, the angle being 52 degrees from the straight line. The three spans are formed thus—66 ft. span is given to the arch over the Farringdon-street roadway, and the two side spans are formed by the arches over the footways, each of which is to be a little more than the width of the present spacious pavement. The bridge will consist of six cast-iron ornamental ribs, the two outer ones, which will be seen from either side, being of a most elaborate Gothic character. Where the spans over the footway meet the great centre arch, the six ribs are to be supported on hexagonal granite columns, six, of course, at each side. The iron ribs have not been fixed, but the granite columns look most stately. They are 5 ft. in diameter, and are formed at the lowest face of grey granite, then a moulding of black granite, polished, then the hexagonal column of red granite, also polished and surmounted with a polished capital of black granite. The granites are from Aberdeen, Devon, Guernsey, and the Ross of Mull. At the four corners of the abutments are four demi-columns of polished granite of the same kind, but beyond this the interior columns of the abutments on the side away from the curb are of richly-carved Portland stone. The effect of the whole, when completed, will be strikingly beautiful—indeed, there will be no viaduct of its kind like it in all England. Between the twelve main columns which carry the centre arch are powerful cross-bracing frames of cast iron. The pierced iron balustrade which is to bound the footpath on each side, is of most elaborate design, and so also are the lamps with which the bridge will be lighted. The four outer capitals of the granite columns which support the side spans are to be surmounted with bronze statues. Certainly the City authorities are sparing no expense to make this bridge—as it well deserves to be—the great ornamental feature of the whole viaduct. At each corner of this bridge four flights of steps, each about 11 ft. wide, will give access from Farringdon-street to the higher level of the viaduct. Each of these stairways is to be inclosed in stone structures, ample light and ventilation being given to them. There will be four landings on each flight of steps, which are to be formed of single slabs of Park Spring stone, of such a size that special trucks must be constructed to bring them up by rail. The buildings at the four corners of the viaduct will rise several stories above its level. The space beneath the steps will be appropriated for shops or warehouses, and above the steps the floors are to be utilised as offices and for general commercial purposes.

The structures which are to adorn the four corners of this beautiful bridge the City Improvement Committee have most wisely kept in their own hands to secure beauty of elevation and uniformity of design. They will all be very stately-looking stone edifices, which will vie in beauty and loftiness of elevation with any of the best specimens of street architecture in Paris or New York. For the rest of the line along each side of the viaduct builders are not confined to any particular design, beyond the very proper restriction that no design can be adopted without first being submitted for the approval of the City Improvement Committee. This is to ensure that no small or inadequate structures shall be erected on what will be soon one of the handsomest thoroughfares into the City. Uniformity, of course, will not be insisted on, but fine buildings will; so that the very essence of the beauty of street architecture—stateliness and diversity—will be thus combined. No less than three new streets are to be made in connection with the viaduct. One is to lead from the circus at the west end of the viaduct to the corner of Farringdon-street, near Ludgate-hill. Another, from the same starting-point, will give access to new Smithfield Market; and the third will lead up to the viaduct from the south side. The widening of Shoe-lane and of Newgate-street is also intended; and, altogether, as we have said at the commencement of this notice, it is contemplated to construct a new district. These improvements, however, are in some cases only just begun, and are far too important to be disposed of in a few lines at the end of a long article.

ONE OF THE HIGHEST TIDES ever known is expected to take place on the 8th of next month.

THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY ON THE STATE OF THE CHURCH.

THE following is the text of the speech delivered by the Archbishop of Canterbury to the clergy of the rural deanery of West Dartford, a few days ago:—

His Grace desired, he said, to confer with them upon subjects interesting to us all at this time as members of the Church of England. No one could fail to see that we were coming to—nay, had already entered upon—difficult times. Two great influences were actively at work, both alien to the progress of true and living Christianity—the one, superstition; the other, infidelity. Each of these seemed to be more active than at any former period in the history of the world. He was not speaking of England only, but of Europe. When we look at the state of Italy, what do we see? We see men apparently halting between superstition of a most debasing kind and hopeless, unfathomable scepticism. So it has threatened to be in Spain; though we cannot but hope that the free circulation of the Holy Scriptures, hitherto almost entirely unknown, may, in the good providence of God, lead to better things. When we come to our own country the danger from infidelity seems to be not so much from abstract speculations and questionings—though this danger is not to be overlooked—but of a grosser and far more threatening kind. The danger is that the masses of our population, knowing nothing and caring nothing about philosophical questions, may become practical infidels, sunk into materialism, living only for the life which now is, and putting altogether out of their thoughts the world unseen. Against these two dangers—superstition on the one hand and infidelity on the other—the Church of England has various means within her reach, such as no other Church or institution in the world possesses. In the first place, her purity of doctrine and inculcation of faith in God manifested in Christ, then the importance she attaches to education and the culture of the reasoning powers, adapt her to the wants and feelings of the educated classes. Dissenting bodies equally with ourselves have taken alarm at the danger which seems to be menacing the framework of society and the souls of men, but they have not the same vantage-ground for meeting the dangers which we have. We have, in the first place, a defined ecclesiastical position, and we have an advantage as an Establishment. There can be no question that this latter position is likely to be invaded. Probably an attack on the Establishment is not to be apprehended at present, though some persons doubt on this point. But, taking what some call the more hopeful view—namely, that the attack is likely to be postponed some ten or twelve years—surely such a hope is but a slight one. It is a very poor thing to limit one's energies to the defence of a position which is hardly worth defending—to postpone its downfall merely until our day is ended. Rather it should be our endeavour to take up a position which may be held and maintained after our work has passed to other hands. And to do this we must prove to the world that our position is a righteous one, that our Church is doing God's work. If there are weak points, now is the time to strengthen them; if there are blotches, now is the time to wipe them out. Only let this be remembered before all things, that an alteration of mechanism is not the principal thing to be looked to; that is good and desirable in its place, but far more needful is it that the clergy show by their zeal and self-denial, by their energy and love, that they are doing God's work, that they long for the salvation of the souls of men. The heart that is fed with love from the Spirit of God, that has begun rightly; and, having so begun, it will feel that it is bound to look well to the appliances and plans which change of circumstances and things as they are under necessary. The first case which occurs to our thoughts, the case which seems likely to be soon brought under discussion, is the Liturgy. Though adapted to the educated, it is hardly so to the poor, and does not seem to commend itself to the lower middle classes. The Ritual Commission, in considering the question of the rubrics, has always most carefully kept in view that matters of doctrine are not within its scope. The one object which it has set before itself is to examine whether the rubrics can be altered so as to further the present work of the Church and increase its usefulness. It may be well to state here a few changes which are likely to be proposed; it will enable the clergy to consider them, and weigh them, before they are definitively laid open. But first let one point be made clear. Great alarm is expressed on one side lest the Imperial Legislature should act without Convocation; on the other, lest Convocation should interfere with the prerogative of Parliament. Now, really both dangers are somewhat visionary. We may depend upon it the greatest difficulty will be to get Parliament to legislate at all; there is a tendency and a desire to ignore the whole matter; and, if Parliament does legislate, it will be in consequence of the expressed and unmistakable desire of the whole Church, whether expressed through Convocation or by any other method. Now, it lies, therefore, upon the clergy to consider well what the weak points of our present system are; and, if they find it wanting, insufficient for the needs of the time, then let it be known that they desire modifications in their system. The Ritual Commission has been sitting long, and the changes which it thinks desirable have now been drawn up and are at present being circulated among the Divinity professors of the Universities and other dignitaries of the Church. They may be summed up as follow:—1. A new Lectionary. Many chapters have been added, as suited to edification; some have been omitted. A greater elasticity has been given to the Lectionary. The principal changes are in the daily lessons. 2. Alterations in the ordinary daily service. Evidently to men busily engaged the service as it stands at present does not commend itself. Even the City churches which have a daily service are but thinly attended. A shorter service, therefore, will be proposed—shorter, but strictly based upon the existing materials. 3. Every facility for dividing services and using different services at different times, according to the exigencies of different congregations. 4. In the burial service some solution of a difficulty commonly felt will be offered. These are the chief matters dealt with by the Ritual Commission. Nothing revolutionary need be anticipated. The character of the Prayer-Book will be preserved intact. Other matters imperatively demand attention. What a scandal, for instance, to take up a newspaper and find whole columns devoted to the advertisements of sale of livings, and to see the tone and language of some of the advertisements themselves! It may be difficult to deal with this; but an attempt will probably be made. The bill which has lately passed with reference to the resignation of Bishops is identical in its scope with a plan proposed in Convocation three years ago with reference to the other clergy. It is not unlikely that a similar measure will be proposed for this end. More efficient episcopal supervision is required, although Churchmen may not have made up their minds as to the best means of gaining it. The desirability or non-desirability of a service for children is a matter upon which the clergy will do well to form an opinion. The abolition of church rates has led to one difficulty not anticipated. The payment of fees by churchwardens can now be more legally demanded than formerly. But the churchwardens themselves have no guarantee that they will be repaid. Might not this lead to parishioners refusing the office? Some information as to whether this had actually occurred was desirable.

MR. ROBERT FAUSSETT, a Sligo magistrate, has been superseded by the Lord Chancellor. Mr. Faussett, at a recent meeting of the Sligo Harbour Commissioners, of which body he is a life member, uttered what might be called a challenge to fight a duel. He also called a brother Commissioner a "low chap." The Harbour Commissioners brought the matter under the notice of the Government, and the result has been already stated.

MR. TITUS SALT, of Saltaire, has received from Mr. Gladstone the offer of a baronetcy, which he has accepted. The bells of the parish church at Bradford were rung on Monday evening, on the news being received. The new Baronet is a magistrate for Bradford and for the West Riding, and has filled the offices of Mayor of the borough and president of the Local Chamber of Commerce. At the general election of 1859 Mr. Salt was returned to Parliament as member for the borough, but the late hours of the House of Commons did not suit his health, and he resigned his seat early in 1861.

THE WALLACE MONUMENT.—Last Saturday afternoon the Wallace Monument, erected on the Abbey Craig, near Stirling, was formally handed over by the committee of subscribers to the Provost, magistrates, and town council of Stirling, as the future custodians of the structure. The ceremony was simple and unimposing. At twelve o'clock the magistrates and other officials marched in procession from the Corn Exchange, and proceeded by way of Wallace-street and Stirling Bridge to Abbey Craig, where they met the monument committee. The ceremony was performed in the armoury-hall of the monument, in the presence of about a hundred gentlemen—Lord Jerviswoode presiding. Mr. E. Morrison, the secretary, read a report, which stated that the erection of the monument was resolved upon in June, 1856; that the foundation-stone was laid in June, 1861; and that, after many difficulties had been overcome, the monument had at last been completed, at a total cost of £13,401 1s. 8d. The amount subscribed was £12,902 16s. 8d., leaving a deficiency of nearly £500. The original estimate of the cost of the building was £7000. The committee, in concluding their report, said:—"We have had no other motive than to carry out our countrymen's wishes and contribute our share to the long-neglected but often-spoken-of duty of Scotsmen to erect a national monument to the memory of the great champion of Scottish independence—William Wallace." On the motion of Colonel Dregburn, a committee was appointed to wind up the remaining business affairs connected with the monument. Lord Jerviswoode, the convener of the acting committee, then formally handed over the monument to the keeping of the Provost, magistrates, and council, who, as patrons of Mr. William Burns, Glasgow, a vote of thanks was given to Lord Jerviswoode for conducting the ceremony, and the proceedings then terminated. In the afternoon there was a dinner in the Royal Hotel—Provost Rankin in the chair. In the course of the day a meeting was held in the Golden Lion Hotel—Mr. Hunter, of Blackness, presiding—at which the Rev. Dr. Charles Rogers, who acted for some years as secretary to the monument committee, was presented by a number of his friends with his portrait, as an acknowledgment of his exertions in the cause.

THE HUMBOLDT CENTENARY.

THE centenary of the birth of Alexander von Humboldt was celebrated, on Tuesday evening, at the Turnhalle, in the St. Pancras-road, where Mr. Karl Blind delivered an eloquent address in German, in which he said that men of the Teutonic race, whether they dwell on the right or the left side of the Maine—on the banks of the Thames or beyond the ocean—all joyously offer their homage to the leaders of the republic of letters and learning; and among those leaders in the learned world no name speaks more powerfully to the imagination than the name of Alexander von Humboldt. In Humboldt, as one of his biographers justly remarks, a whole epoch of scientific investigations is reflected. To him we owe the collection and classification of the results of inquiry in the most varied branches, whether referring to the earth and its inhabitants, to this world-island in the sea of ether, or to the discovery of important laws of nature, which astral bodies, men, all living things of the animal and vegetable kingdoms, and minerals as well, obey—or to the finding out of new forms of life—or to the definition of uncertain geographical regions, to new nations, and their manners and languages—or to the historical vestiges of an ancient, obliterated civilisation, as in Mexico and Peru—or to the structure of the crust of our earth, the distribution of plants, terrestrial magnetism, and volcanic action. The titles alone of his labours fill a little volume, and it is no mean part of the value, the power, and the charm of his works that he, a pioneer of science, did not simply write out of books, but that he always himself "came, saw, and vanquished;" a true spiritual conqueror. Some would fain explain his name from an old German root as Hünenbold (mighty, bold), and of boldness he certainly had no lack. In the redekin's canoe, in the Siberian wilderness, on the Kirghis steppe—everywhere he showed himself a scientific pathfinder. What renders him the dearer is that, like Schiller, he may be included in the ranks of those who not merely work for the æsthetic cultivation of the individual, but who have an understanding and a heart also for the welfare of the community at large. The great poet, it is true, ignored and misconceived the rising importance of Humboldt, even as the great natural philosopher did not feel the full depth of Schiller's poetical genius. To break the fetters of superstition Humboldt has laboured through several ages of man. To-day, when we see inquisitorial terrors once more rising in the ghastly figure of a Barbara Ubyrk; to-day, when monkhood towers up a fortress of darkness even in Moabit, at Berlin, and when our patience is tried with various opinions on the solar system—to-day we have an additional duty to hold high the name of Humboldt, though the zealous may deny him with saintly virulence. Whoever knows Humboldt's works knows also that he, before all, sought unity in the complicated phenomena. Neither to reason nor to imagination, so long as it did not take an erratic flight into the region of fanciful illusion, did he contest the right of looking for a causal nexus; and his endeavour, too, was to make the idea soar above the "narrow boundary of the sensual world." The speaker then gave extracts at some length from Humboldt's writings to prove this idealistic tendency of his; and then, as a counterpart, quoted his opinion on a number of religious systems which, in Humboldt's words, "all contain three constitutive elements—a code of morals of great purity, a geological dream, and a myth, or little historical romance, which latter gradually obtained the upper hand in importance." The possibility of making these religious systems agree with the results of modern inquiries Humboldt certainly denied. Hence he had to suffer much persecution from the Hengstenbergs and their partisans, and bitter were the complaints which the venerable scientific inquirer often poured out on that account in private intercourse. He took his revenge now and then, as, for instance, when he said to Mr. Bayard Taylor, pointing to a living chameleon in his room, "It is the peculiarity of this animal that it can look at one and the same time in different directions. It can look up to heaven with one eye, while the other darts its glances earthwards. There are many Mawworms who can do the same." Mr. Karl Blind concluded:—Heralds, ladies and gentlemen, has not much attraction for our times. But with Humboldt's escutcheon we will for once make an exception. It shows on a golden shield, on the green earth, a leafy tree, surrounded by stars. The helmet has eagle's wings, between which a mailed knight brandishes a sword. Well, then, it has been truly said—Alexander Humboldt has remained faithful to his escutcheon! On the green earth he has made comprehensive investigations. To the stars his mind also rose with eagle's wings. And as a mailed knight of intellect (Ritter des Geistes) he has come forth brandishing good steel in the struggle for light and truth. Thus let us comprehend, thus honour him; him, the adornment of the German race; him, the glory-covered chief of science, whose spiritual home was the world, whose name will radiate through ages when the names of purple-proud oppressors shall have faded away, and be sunk and forgotten in eternal oblivion!

The audience, which was numerous, paid close attention to the address, and testified their approval by loud cheers. The evening was further occupied by some recitations, and a number of German songs were admirably given by a powerful chorus, with the accompaniment of a piano. The great hall was hung with banners, and a bust of Humboldt, surrounded by evergreens, stood in the centre of the platform.

A MAN NAMED HALL, who lately made a false confession of having been concerned in the Cannon-street murder, was, on Monday, charged at Guildhall with attempting to commit suicide. His defence was that he was weary of his existence, and the presiding magistrate, after a remonstrance, remanded the prisoner, in order that an inquiry might be made into the state of his mind.

THE BISHOP OF EXETER.—The intended resignation of the Bishop of Exeter under the new Act, which is announced this week, will surprise many who remember how warmly the right rev. prelate denounced the Durham Retirement Bill thirteen years ago. Dr. Phillpotts is the oldest Bishop on the Episcopal bench, having attained the ninety-first year of his age on May 3 last. The venerable Prelate is at present so seriously ill that his friends fear he will not be able to complete the arrangements consequent upon the resignation of the see.

SIR RODERICK MURCHISON.—At a meeting of the Inverness Town Council on Monday, specially called for the purpose, a proposal was submitted by Bailie Simpson for conferring the freedom of the burgh on Sir Roderick Murchison, LL.D. The proposal was unanimously agreed to, and the Town Clerk was instructed to ascertain from the hon. Baronet when it would be convenient for him to accept the honour. Sir Roderick, who is a native of the neighbouring burgh of Dingwall, has been in the north for some months, residing with Mr. Fowler at Braemore, where he has been enjoying excellent sport with all the ardour of a youthful sportsman. He has also spent some time at Dunrobin Castle, as the guest of the Duke of Sutherland.

THE IRISH CHURCH.—The General Synod met, on Tuesday, at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin. There was a full attendance of both provincial synods. The proceeding in the Upper House were private. A message was sent thence to the Lower House, containing a protest against the Church Act approved by the Lower House. The Bishop of Down, in the Upper House, had protested against the protest as unnecessary. A second message was sent down, containing a scheme for the formation of a Church body of the clergy of each diocese to elect representatives varying in number. The total for Ireland to be 124. One Dean and one Archdeacon for each united diocese, and the Regius Professor of Divinity, Trinity College, to be ex officio members; the Provost and Fellows of the college to return one member. Archdeacon Lee moved a preface defining the position of the laity and suggesting election from among communicants, and declaring that questions of doctrine and discipline should be reserved for the bishops and clergy. On a division, taken on the second day's sitting, the *ex officio* plan of representation in future was rejected by 97 votes and 10 proxies to 29 votes. A resolution was then passed, on the motion of the Rev. Dr. Salmon, that all "licensed clergymen" in each diocese should vote for the clerical representatives. A motion was next carried giving the Provost and Fellows of Trinity College and the professors of the University of Dublin, "being clergymen in the Church of Ireland in full orders," the right to vote in prelatial elections. Another resolution was passed in these terms:—"That the representation of the clergy in the general synod or convention shall be constituted on the principle of giving each electoral body representatives in proportion to the numbers of its clerical members." A resolution that the elections should be "by separate dioceses, as they existed before the Church Temporalities Act," was adopted, the words "Church Temporalities Act," however, being struck out.

Literature.

Lectures and Speeches. By ELIHU BURRITT. London: Sampson Low and Co.

Mr. Burritt's eloquence has long been known to Englishmen, who always listened to him with much pleasure. To say, then, that he is better in the book than on the platform is no light praise; although, indeed, he was so frequently obscure when speaking that there was no help for it but to miss the sense, and pass on lightly, in hopes of the next observation being clearer. And yet he speaks in a preface about talking to mixed audiences, and how he had to contrive to adapt his language to possibly rough and uncultivated people, who would not understand ordinary graces of oratory. It is evident, then, that Mr. Burritt thinks he talks the plainest English possible! Well, and did not the late Mr. Keeley insist that his forte lay in tragedy? However, it is sufficient for us that Mr. Burritt is plain enough on paper for all reasonable purposes, and that his four lectures will be read with pleasure. "The Physiology of Free Nations" may be described as an ethnological ramble, where plenty of strange fruits and flowers are gathered by the way. The idea is that everything good comes by amalgamation, and that it is especially so in the case of the human species. Taking England—and, by-the-way, Mr. Burritt is the most thorough enthusiast about England and the English that the United States of America have produced—Mr. Burritt carefully puts together every piece, great or small, which goes to make up what is known as the Anglo-Saxon. The English, or Teutonic, he holds to be the dominant race, whilst he looks upon the Latin as scarcely worthy of notice. All this, as may be supposed, leads up to the grandeur of America, and nobody will care to gainsay it. We may not exactly believe that the United States have a "larger number of newspapers and periodicals than all the rest of the world put together," or, if we did, we might have something to say on the score of the literary value of such papers and periodicals; but we will not deny that the Americans are a "great people." Considering that most Englishmen believe that, they will wonder how Mr. Burritt came to write such sentimental nonsense as what follows, apropos of the Prince of Wales in the United States. "That nation arose with its millions and looked into his face. They saw in it a higher and purer image and superscription than Caesar's at the summit of that Roman's glory. They did not look for the lineaments of kingly power, but for the mild features of that Royal mother whose name and character are known and honoured from ocean to ocean. In the touch of his little hand they felt hers, and in their own the quickened pulses of the grand histories and affinities of a common race. As he stood, uncovered, in pensive reverence at the tomb of Washington, the last unpleasant memory between the two grand empires of that race seemed then and there to be buried for ever, and the two rivers of their destiny to flow into each other in one harmonious course." Can it be possible that the Halcyon has so tamed the American eagle? Passing over "Benevolent Associations of the Day," and the "Higher Law and Mission of Commerce," we have to thank Mr. Burritt for an admirable lecture on "The Dignity and Comfort of the Farmer's Life." It is worthy of the best English essayists in their most serious mood. He pictures the farmer's son attached to his home, knowing every part of the varied buildings, all so utterly unlike the farmer near or far off; and contrasts with this the young gentleman going home to, say, Twenty-ninth Avenue, and only knowing his father's house from the dozens right and left by a vulgar brass plate!

The latter half of the volume is taken up with reports of meetings held years and years ago, and no longer of the least interest.

THE WORKS OF DANIEL DEFOE. Carefully selected from the most Authentic Sources. With Chalmers' Life of the Author, Annotated. Edited by JOHN S. KELLIE. Edinburgh: William P. Nimmo.

The fact that publishers find it answer their purpose to issue numerous and cheap editions of Defoe's works is not, we think, a bad sign of the literary taste of the times, however much the age may justly be accused of a partiality for trashy sensational works. We do not mean merely editions of "Robinson Crusoe," which has long been a valued treasure in most households; nor, indeed, editions of the whole works of Defoe, who was one of the most prolific authors which the literature of England, or any other country, can boast (he produced about 250 distinct works, besides contributions to periodicals), but of pretty voluminous selections from those works. We dare say it may with truth be said that of hundreds to whom the adventures of Crusoe on his lonely isle are familiar as household words, few are aware that Defoe produced anything else of note besides that famous story. Mr. Nimmo has here presented us with a portly volume of over 600 large octavo pages, closely printed in small type, which yet contains only twelve out of the 250 works which are believed to have emanated from Defoe's pen. Of these 600 pages, "Crusoe" occupies 178, the remainder of the volume being devoted to the following:—"The Life of Captain Jack," "Memoirs of a Cavalier," "The Life and Adventures of Duncan Campbell," "Journal of the Plague in London," "Everybody's Business is Nobody's Business," "The Apparition of Mrs. Veal," "The Shortest Way with Dissenters," "Giving Alms No Charity" (Sir R. W. Carden must surely have studied this production), "The Complete English Tradesman," "The True-Born Englishman," and "A Hymn to the Pillory." Mr. Kellie has performed his editorial work with care; and in his preface and note on "recently-discovered facts concerning Defoe" (as these are given in Mr. W. Lee's excellent "Life" of the author of "Robinson Crusoe") he supplies the latest information concerning Defoe and the works recently fathered upon him. Mr. Kellie has reprinted Chalmers' life of the author, but has appended numerous and valuable notes, which display both critical acumen and extensive reading and research, and add greatly to the value of the book. The rules by which Mr. Kellie was guided in making his selection are thus explained in the preface:—"The object of the present edition of Defoe's works is to present to the general public the cream of his fictions, and such a selection from his other writings as will enable most readers to form a notion of what manner of man he was. The great mass of Defoe's pamphlets would, of course, be totally devoid of interest at the present day, unless to him who is compelled to burrow among the debris of that period for history-writing purposes. The same may be said of Defoe's poetry, and therefore the editor has endeavoured to select from this class of his works such as are likely to be attractive to the great mass of readers, either on account of the permanent interest of their subject, the manner of treatment, or their connection with an important episode in the life of the author. With regard to his other and more important works, the aim has been to select such as best exhibit Defoe's genius, are likely to interest all readers, and required no emasculation to render them fit for perusal by all classes." The result of Mr. Kellie's labours is a very handsome—and we are sure welcome—carefully-printed, and substantially bound volume, which, to our mind, has but one fault, and that fault a necessary consequence of its cheapness: the print is very small, and therefore only adapted for young readers, not for those whose eyes have grown dim with age. By young readers, however, the book will, doubtless, be considered a rare treat.

THE PILGRIM'S PROGRESS, in Words of One Syllable. By MARY GODOLPHIN, Author of "Robinson Crusoe," "Evenings at Home," and "The Swiss Family Robinson," in Words of One Syllable. With Coloured Illustrations. London: Routledge and Sons.

This is another of Mrs. Godolphin's series of standard books rendered in words of one syllable, to which we have called attention on a previous occasion. "The Pilgrim's Progress" possesses the same characteristics as the other members of the series, and the rendering is equally successful; though whether it be really de-

sirable that books for children—especially children of an age capable of understanding, in reasonable measure, Bunyan's beautiful allegory—should be rigidly confined to words of one syllable, may be open to question. There are many words of one syllable that are both more difficult to pronounce and more difficult to understand than other words of two syllables that express the same thing. For instance—to borrow an illustration that has already been adduced in connection with this subject—the phrase "a wild beast" is easier neither for the tongue nor the comprehension of a child than "a lion," while it is a great deal more vague—in fact, does not convey any definite idea nor indicate any particular animal at all. But if it be desirable to have books of this kind done into words of only one syllable, then Mrs. Godolphin has the merit of performing the work in a very efficient style; and the publishers have the further merit of bringing out her books in an exceedingly neat fashion, with prettily-printed coloured illustrations, which will be sure to please the eyes of the young, whether or not the books themselves really facilitate their studies.

THE GREAT SCHOOLS OF ENGLAND. By HOWARD STAUNTON. New Edition. Revised and Corrected. London: Strahan and Co.

No extra word of praise need be given to Mr. Staunton's valuable book. It is emphatically addressed to "parents and guardians," and they make up a sufficiently large body to take care of Mr. Staunton's labours and to profit by them. The great schools vary considerably; and before "young troublesome" is sent to one, old troublesome would do well to consult this volume, and see what sort of a future he is really supplying for his son. Too often the old gentleman is of the Osborne stamp in "Vanity Fair." He has risen from the ranks, but will make his son a gentleman at any cost. True, the society of gentlemen is likely at least to beget gentility; but the education part of the business must not be neglected. Now, for instance, at Westminster School scarcely anything is taught—and certainly no attention is paid to anything—but Latin and Greek. Beyond all question, such schools as Cheltenham and Marlborough are better for the mass of people, if they can manage it. Paterfamilias is too often ignorant of these things.

The new edition of this useful work is supplemented by an appendix, containing notices of the endowed grammar schools of England and Wales.

THE CHILD'S ILLUSTRATED POETRY BOOK. London: George Routledge and Sons.

Here is a nice collection of poetry and songs for children, some by Watts and some by Eliza Cook and Longfellow, with one of Montgomery's, which would have been better left out, for it is doubtful if such lines as the following are in any sense suitable for the little ones,

For lo! a penny tract, if well
Applied, may save a soul from hell,

the spirit of the book generally being more in accordance with the love which saith "Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of heaven."

BOOKS FOR THE YOUNG.

There are various and significant signs abroad that "Christmas is a-coming." Placards in the shop windows of speculative grocers inform customers and passers-by that "Our Christmas club has commenced: pay what you like, and have what you like;" this last declaration, no doubt, being intended to be understood only in a limited sense, for, otherwise, many unconscionable people (there are unconscionable people about) might "like" to pay very little, and yet "like" to have a great deal. Publishers, too, also of a speculative turn, announce that they have made arrangements for a grand distribution of geese and turkeys for the great festival of the English year, and invite the deposition in their hands of certain weekly sixpences in order to secure a share in the division of Christmas fare; while others call attention to the excellence of the contents of their "guinea hampers," by which subscribers may ensure ample supplies of liquids with which to wash down the solid provender which their brethren undertake to provide. Here, likewise, are Messrs. Cassell, Petter, and Galpin taking time by the forelock and issuing a whole batch of "Books for the Young," suitable for "Christmas presents and New-Year's gifts." The middle of November, or thereabouts, used to be the time when books for Christmas made their appearance, and that period is still adhered to by some orthodox-minded (or it may be sluggish) publishers; but Messrs. Cassell, Petter, and Galpin, wise in their day and generation, and determined to be beforehand with the world, have forestalled the ordinary Christmas book epoch by a couple of months. If they thereby secure the "first of the market," they will merit the advantage both by their diligence and the quality of their wares—so far, at least, as outside appearance goes; and we say this without at all meaning to detract from the internal merits of the books before us. As get-up and binding, however, are important features in gift-books in general, and "books for the young" in particular, we are bound to give prominence to these elements, and to say that Messrs. Cassell and Co.'s productions are very handsomely got up indeed. Some are refulgent in green and gold, some in red and gold, some in maroon and gold, and others, again, in imperial purple and gold. All are neatly printed, profusely illustrated, and so varied in their character as to be adapted to all sorts of tastes, unless, indeed, there should be young people with naughty tastes, for they will assuredly find nothing to suit them here.

Many of these books are obviously reprints, and therefore do not call for criticism; and there are, in whole, so many of them, that we have no space for criticism, and must therefore content ourselves with merely recording their titles, and leaving intending purchasers to make their own selections, being satisfied that, select which book they may, they cannot well make a bad choice. Here, then, are the titles of the batch, as we turn over the books at random:—1. "Hid in a Cove; or, The Selfish Little Girl." 2. "Little Fables for Little Folks." 3. "Granny's Spectacles, and What She Saw Through Them," by the author of "A Trap to Catch a Sunbeam." 4. "Flora Selwyn; or, How to Behave," a book for little girls. 5. "The Story of the Little Hamiltons; or, The Two Sisters," by the author of "Mamma's New Bible Stories." 6. "The Boy Who Wondered; or, Jack and Minchen," by Mrs. George Gladstone, author of "Ups and Downs of an Old Maid's Life." These six books are uniform in size (foolscap octavo), are embellished with coloured illustrations, and belong to one series. We now come to another series, in small quarto, also illustrated, some in colours and some plain; and, continuing our catalogue, we have:—7. "The Magic of Kindness; or, the Wonderful Story of the Good Juan," by the Brothers Mayhew; which fact is sufficient guarantee for the excellence of the matter. 8. "King Gaby's Story Bag, and the Wonderful Stories it contained," by Heraclitus Grey, author of "Armstrong Magney," "In Vain," &c., and showing to what excellent purpose a "gift of the gab" may be turned. 9. "Our Coral Reef; The Story of a Runaway Trip to Sea," by Arthur Locker (J. H. Forbes), author of "Recollections of Van Diemen's Land," "Out in Blue Water," &c.; the purport of this story may be easily guessed at. 10. "Hours of Sunshine," by Matthias Barr, author of "Little Willie," "The Child's Garland," &c.; a collection of little stories in verse. 11. "The Rare Romance of Reynard the Fox, the Crafty Courtier; together with the Shifts of his Son Reynardine," in words of one syllable, by Samuel Phillips Day; an old friend in a new form, after the manner of Mary Godolphin, some remarks on whose "Pilgrim's Progress," in words of one syllable, made elsewhere, are equally applicable to this book.

AN EMBANKMENT on the Oxford and Wolverhampton Railway, at Dudley, has been partially destroyed by a singular accident. The line is constructed over a bed of solid coal, which in one case comes to the surface. Owing to some mysterious cause the coal has ignited, and is still smouldering; and, to add to the insecurity of the embankment, the accumulation of water on the line is greater than can be carried off by the ordinary channels. As yet, however, no stoppage of the traffic has occurred.

THE IMPERIAL VISIT TO TOULON AND CORSICA.

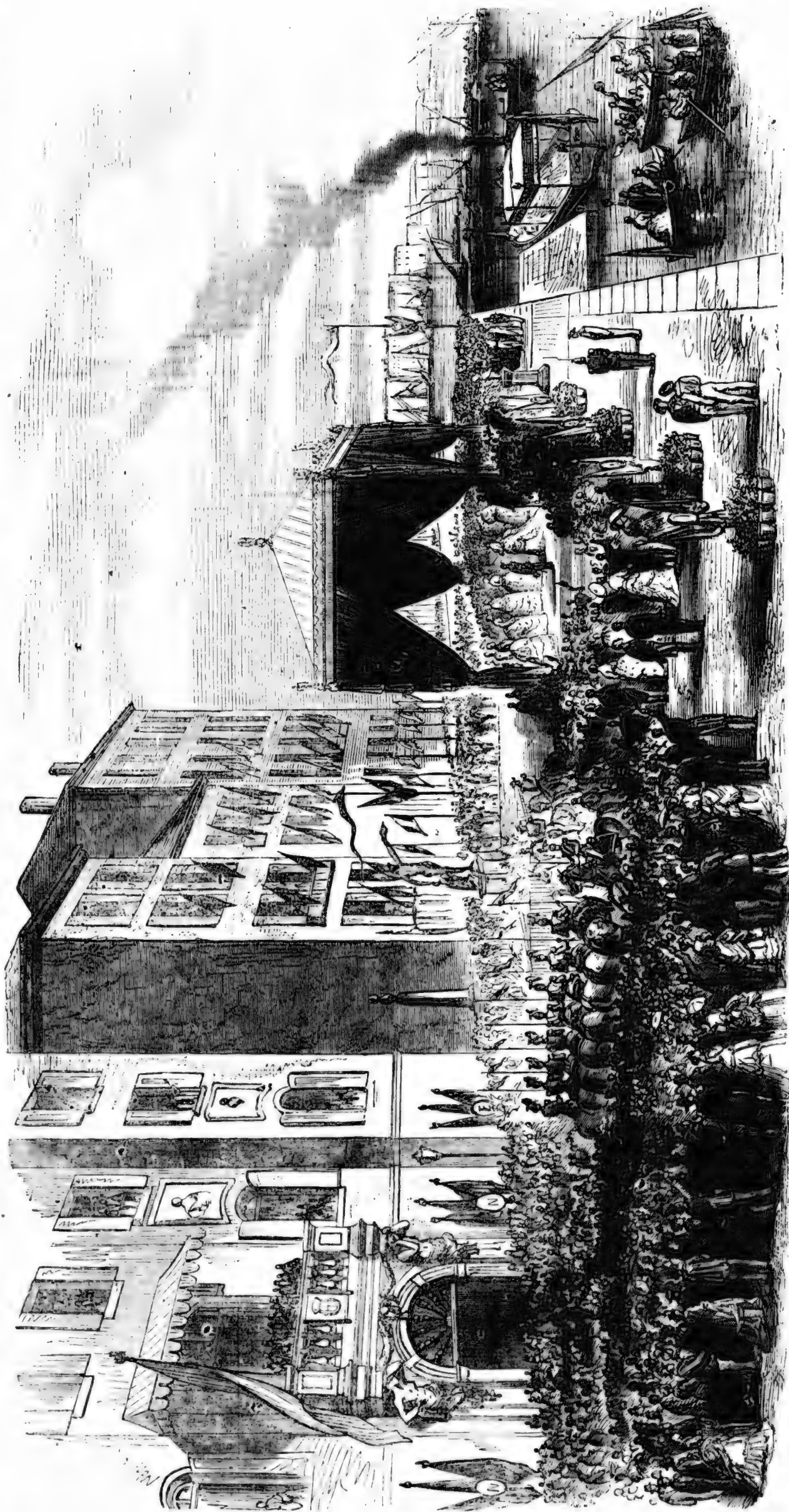
AFTER leaving Lyons the Empress and Prince Imperial reached Toulon on Aug. 26. The reception given there to the august travellers was most cordial. The streets being narrow, banners and flags of all nations were stretched across from window to window, and threw a welcome shade upon the dense crowd that swarmed beneath. At the Hôtel de Ville all the principal ladies of the town were presented to the Empress; also the magistrates, clergy, and officers of the army and navy, and the officers belonging to an iron-clad Egyptian frigate then in port, who had

particularly requested the honour of an introduction. Towards evening the scene was even more animated. All the houses along the quays were illuminated with coloured lamps, the jetties crowded with people gazing on the port, where the gigantic vessels the Louis XIV., Charlemagne, and other ships of war rode at anchor, with their masts and rigging all ablaze with light; while between and around them were flitting to and fro boats of every size and description, adorned with flags and Venetian lanterns. When, at a given signal, showers of rockets arose from the decks of the vessels and the batteries on the shore, the scene was

magical in effect. The sea for miles around was so brilliantly illuminated that it seemed on fire. At a dinner given by the Empress on board the Aigle, previous to sailing for Bastia, M. Emile Ollivier, as President of the Conseil Général of the department of Var, sat on her Majesty's right hand, the Mayor on the left. M. Ollivier's speech was much applauded, and highly approved by the Empress. A certain weight is given to this incident as confirming the prevalent opinion that M. Ollivier will eventually accept a Ministerial portefeuille.

The Empress, on her arrival before Bastia, received the General com-

manding the division, and the Prefect. Her Majesty then landed along with the Prince. After disembarking in the old harbour she went in a carriage to the Place St. Nicolas, where she was received under a tent by the Mayor, the municipal council, clergy, the court Imperial, and the provisor of the Lycée. Young girls presented a bouquet to her Majesty, and the boys of the Lycée delivered an address to the Prince Imperial. The Empress then proceeded to the Church of St. Mary. After this, crossing the town a second time, she went to the Capannelles, where she laid the foundation-stone of the Civil Hospital. Her Majesty then alighted



THE EMPRESS AND PRINCE IMPERIAL AT TOULON: ON THE QUAY.

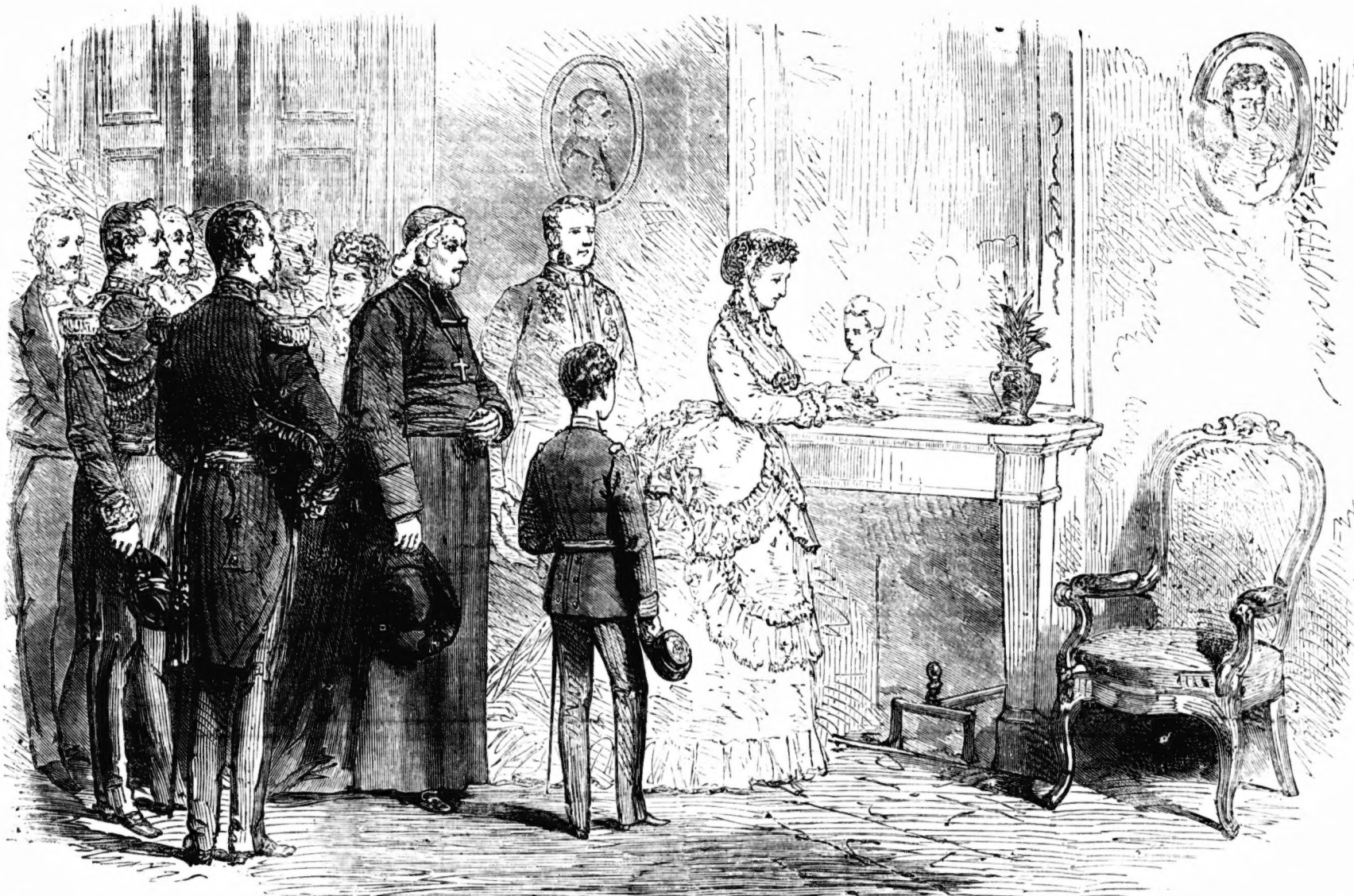
at the Hôtel de Ville, where she partook of a breakfast given by the principal military and civil authorities. After breakfast she received the ladies and the functionaries, and distributed decorations. From the balcony she witnessed the passing before her of deputations from the communes of the arrondissements and from the garrison of Bastia. Throughout the town the houses were decorated with flags, and numerous triumphal arches were erected in the streets by the sailors, the fishermen, and nearly all the different trades. From the greatness of the crowd, and his anxiety to cheer her Majesty and her son, not only were the carriages at times unable to pass onwards, but the different corporations were anxious to take out the horses and draw her Majesty's carriage. When the Aigle hoisted anchor she was surrounded by all the vessels in Bastia, to give a

final salute to the Empress and Prince Imperial and to shout 'Vive l'Empereur!'

At nine a.m. on Monday, Aug. 30, the Empress and Prince Imperial arrived in the roadstead of Ajaccio. The steam-launches of the fleet went out two miles to meet the Aigle, and escorted her whilst she passed before each ship before she cast anchor. Her Majesty and the Prince Imperial disembarked at eleven o'clock, after having breakfasted, on board the Aigle, with the Admiral commanding the fleet. The roadstead was covered with shipping, come to cheer the Empress and her son. They were received on the Quai Napoléon by the Prefect of Corsica, the Mayor of Corsica, the General of Division commanding the department, and the Municipal Council. Her Majesty afterwards

drove to the cathedral, where she heard mass. Her Majesty and the Prince then proceeded on foot to lay the foundation-stone of the new cathedral, at which ceremony the Bishop made an address. After the ceremony the Empress drove to the prefecture, where she received the ladies and functionaries, civil and military, who were presented to her. Her Majesty then distributed civil decorations and visited the Maison Bonaparte, in which she left a bust of her son. During this visit the Prince was deeply impressed with scenes associated with the early years of the immortal founder of his dynasty. After visiting the Imperial chapel and the Fesch Museum her Majesty re-embarked. During her various visits the Empress was accompanied by the Prefect of the department. The streets through which she passed were lined

by the troops of the garrison and the landing companies of the fleet. All the houses were decorated with flags. Numerous triumphal arches were erected in the streets, bearing inscriptions recalling the memorable centenary which her Majesty had so recently been celebrating. The greater part of the population of the island had assembled to receive with acclamations the Empress and Prince Imperial, whose presence among them was a source of pleasure to all. After an hour's rest, her Majesty made the circuit of the roadstead in a boat, being escorted by the sailing ships of the squadron. The Empress left Ajaccio at five o'clock on the morning of Aug. 31, and joined the squadron lying within sight of the island. The Aigle passed between the two lines of the fleet, and as she passed was loudly cheered by each



THE IMPERIAL VISIT TO CORSICA: THE EMPRESS AND PRINCE IMPERIAL AT THE HOUSE OF NAPOLEON I., WHERE HER MAJESTY PLACED A BUST OF HER SON.

vessel. Then she came alongside the flagship, all the ships saluting by firing three rounds. At twenty minutes past five in the evening the Aigle anchored at Toulon, after a magnificent passage. Though tired by her rapid journey, the Empress was in excellent health, and reached St. Cloud on the 3rd inst.

THE WRECK REGISTER AND CHART FOR 1868.

As the year rolls round, and in the midst of great storms, this sad tidings of disasters at sea, the Wreck Register, makes its appearance, and brings afresh to our recollection the scenes of desolation witnessed on too many parts of our coast last winter. Yet

it is satisfactory to find that no gales of remarkable duration and violence occurred during the past year, such as took place in 1866 and 1867, and that the number of wrecks is accordingly less than in those years. The records of the fearful storms of last January, when some half dozen life-boat houses were demolished, are not included in this return. It appears that the number of wrecks, casualties, and collisions from all causes on the coasts of the United Kingdom and in the surrounding seas, reported in 1868, is 1747. This is fortunately 343 less than the number reported in 1867 (2090), and 113 less than the number reported in 1866 (1860). It seems that the number of ships lost or damaged in the 1747 wrecks, casualties, and collisions reported in 1868 is 2131, repre-

senting a registered tonnage of upwards of 427,000 tons. The number of ships in 1868 is less than the number in 1867 by 382. The number of ships reported is in excess of the number of disasters reported, because in cases of collision two or more ships are involved in one casualty.

The following short statement shows the annual average of wrecks reported since 1850, divided into three periods of five and one of four years:—1850, 660; 1851, 1269; 1852, 1115; 1853, 832—making a total in those four years of 3876 wrecks and casualties, and giving an average each year of 969. In 1854, 987; 1855, 1141; 1856, 1153; 1857, 1143; and 1858, 1170—total in five years, 5594, or an average annually of 1118. In 1859, 1416; 1860, 1370;



THE EMPRESS LAYING THE FIRST STONE OF A NEW CATHEDRAL.

1861, 1494; 1862, 1488; and 1863, 1661—giving a total in the five years ending 1863 of 7441, and an average in every year of 1488. In 1864, 1390; 1865, 1656; 1866, 1860; 1867, 2090; and 1868, 1747—total for the five years to the end of 1868, 8743; the average number of wrecks annually in the same period being consequently 1748. Undoubtedly these 1747 shipwrecks in one year on our coasts appear a very large number. Yet it should be constantly borne in mind that our great commerce receives every year fresh development.

The gales of 1868 were chiefly from the following directions, viz.:—January, from south-south-west and south-west; February, from south-west and west. During the months of March, April, May, June, and July no heavy gales were experienced. The August gales were from the south-west, south-south-west, and north-west; September, east and south-west; and December, from the west, south-west, south-south-west, and south-south-east.

Of the total number of wrecks (1747) reported in 1868, 379 were collisions, and 1368 were wrecks and casualties other than collisions. Of these 1368 wrecks and casualties other than collisions, 527 were wrecks resulting in total loss, and 841 were casualties resulting in partial damage more or less serious. The whole number of wrecks and casualties other than collisions reported in 1867 was 1676, and that number was more than the number reported in any year since 1858; but 1868—the number of wrecks and casualties other than collisions in 1868—is less than the number of wrecks and casualties in 1867 by 398.

Of the 527 wrecks—i.e., total losses from causes other than collisions—265 happened when the wind was at force 9 or upwards (a strong gale); 71 arose from defects in the ship or in her equipments (and of the 71, no less than 46 appear to have foundered from unseaworthiness)—87 appear from the reports made by the officers on the coasts to have been caused by inattention, carelessness, or neglect, and the remainder appear to have arisen from various other causes. Thus, excluding collisions, 158 total wrecks last year are clearly and directly traceable to the carelessness and indifference of man. It is also a remarkable fact that from these very casualties the greatest loss of life takes place, inasmuch as the wreck is sometimes instantaneous, arising from the rottenness of the ship, bad anchoring-gear, and other prolific sources of mischief, rendering it hardly possible for any succour from the shore to arrive in time to save the lives of the crews.

It is really a disgrace to us as a nation to learn from this authentic record that the total number of ships that foundered, or were otherwise totally lost, on our coasts from unseaworthiness, unsound gear, &c., in the last ten years is 482; and the number of casualties arising from the same causes during the same period, and resulting in partial damage, was 531. We have no record of the loss of life from these wrecks, but it must have been frightful.

Again, there were 131 wrecks and casualties to smacks and fishing-vessels in 1868. It is always a fatal proof of the severity of a gale when fishing-smacks are lost. But, excluding these 131 fishing-smacks, the number of vessels employed in the regular carrying trade that have suffered from wreck or casualty during the year was exactly 2000. If this number be again subdivided, it will be found that about half of it is represented by the unseaworthy, overloaded, or ill-found vessels of the collier class, chiefly employed in the coasting trade. For the six years ending 1868, the number is more than half. In the ten years ending in 1868, disasters to comparatively new ships bear a very high proportion to the whole number, for 176 wrecks and casualties happened to nearly new ships, and 297 to ships from three to seven years of age. In former years we have had, when unattended with loss of life, to rejoice over the destruction of ships of one hundred years old and upwards; but this year no casualties have been reported to vessels of known greater age than ninety years. The officers of coast-guard and customs, in their wreck returns to the Board of Trade, frequently call attention to the state of rottenness and want of repair of some of the ships above twenty years old. Even at the age of twenty-five to thirty it sometimes happens that a ship is so rotten as to fall to pieces immediately on touching the ground, without giving the crew the slightest chance of getting out their boats or being saved by a life-boat.

From the table showing the parts of the coasts on which the wrecks and casualties happened, it will be seen that, as usual, the greatest number occurred on the east coast. The numbers are as follow:—East coast, 823; south coast, 202; west coast, 427; north-west coast of Scotland, 64; Irish coast, 189; Isle of Man, 22; Lundy Island, 16; and Scilly Isles, 4.

From the wreck chart which accompanies the register the wrecks thus delineated are brought vividly before the mind's eye.

The same chart also tells us of the numerous life-boats that are now happily found in these scenes of desolation and despair, bringing succour, often under the most trying and perilous circumstances, to hundreds of sailors who, in their absence, must inevitably have perished. Yet, notwithstanding all these noble and continued exertions on the part of our life-boat crews, who, in many instances, are prepared to face death themselves if a brother's life is to be saved, we record with the deepest regret that the loss of life on or near the coasts of the United Kingdom in 1868 was 824.

The number of lives lost in 1868 is 509 less than the number lost in 1867, but it is, unhappily, in excess of all other years, except 1867, 1866, 1861, and 1859 (the Royal Charter year), when the number reached 1647. The lives lost in 1868 were lost in 196 ships; 141 of them were laden vessels, 42 were vessels in ballast, and in 13 cases it is not known whether the vessels were laden or light. 164 of these ships were entirely lost, and 32 sustained partial damage. Of the 824 lives lost, 262 were lost in vessels that foundered, 86 lives were lost on board vessels in collision, and 409 in vessels stranded or cast ashore.

Whilst the greatest number of wrecks happened on the east coast of England, the greatest loss of life during the ten years ending in 1868 occurred in the Irish Sea. The number of lives lost in the Irish Sea during the ten years is more than double the number lost on any other part of the coasts.

It appears that there are at present 210 life-boats on the coasts of the United Kingdom belonging to the Royal National Life-Boat Institution, and 40 to local boards. The rocket and mortar apparatus stations now number 279, and are under the management of the coastguard and the Board of Trade.

During the year 1868, and the first eight months of 1869, 938 lives (besides thirty-four vessels) were saved by the life-boats of the National Institution alone, and 558 by shore-boats and other means, for which it granted rewards. A sum of £3968 was expended by the institution in the same period in rewards for saving life, and £33,000 on its various establishments round the coasts of the British Isles.

In the presence of facts like these, the Life-Boat Institution need have no misgiving in respect to pecuniary support whilst it pursues vigorously and successfully the great and national objects for the promotion of which it was established.

It is peculiarly encouraging to find that in proportion as the sphere of the operations of the institution has increased, its committee of management and officers become deeply sensible of their great and responsible duties, and of the high trust which the British public has reposed in them. Its local branches, and the sailors who are ever ready to man the life-boats, fully participate in this feeling of responsibility; and, so long as this mutual feeling is maintained and fostered, the cause of suffering humanity cannot fail to gain by the well-directed efforts of the Life-Boat Institution.

THE STRIKE OF THE WORCESTERSHIRE NAILERS has been brought to a close by the employers agreeing to give the prices of 1864, for which the men struck. Upwards of 20,000 hands who have been kept out of employment by the strike will, it is believed, be able to resume work in a few days.

AN OLD GENTLEMAN NAMED TAYLOR, while picking up some fallen apples in his garden, at Monkhoppton, near Bridgenorth, happened, a day or two since, to stumble against a stand on which two beehives were placed and over them. The enraged insects immediately swarmed round him, and stung him about the head so severely that he died the next day in great agony.

OPERA AND CONCERTS.

Now that both the festivals are at an end, the Crystal Palace is more than ever the great and only place in England where good music of all kinds may be heard. The performances of English opera, from which but little was expected when they were first announced, have proved thoroughly successful. The English version of "La Sonnambula" was followed by "The Bohemian Girl," "The Bohemian Girl" by "Lucia" (in English, of course), "Lucia" by "Maritana" and "Lurline." When all has been said and counted, the fact is seen clearly enough that our English opera consists of a few works by Balfe and Wallace. Perhaps Mr. Loder's "Night-Dancers" might fairly be added to the list. Nothing, we consider, that Mr. Macfarren has produced can be looked upon as still living—indeed, life was always the very important element that was wanting in his operas. The great representative work of what must, we suppose, be called the English school is Mr. Balfe's "Bohemian Girl"—which, by-the-way, owes its excellent libretto to a Frenchman, M. de St. Georges. It is by the ballad-opera misnamed "The Bohemian Girl" that English opera is known and judged abroad; and when "The Bohemian Girl" is forgotten, there will be nothing left to show the haughty foreigner that such a thing as English opera exists at all. We shall still have English composers, however, just as, without any original dramatic literature worth speaking of, we have plenty of English authors—authors of poems, histories, novels—everything except plays. From time to time an original drama is produced, no doubt; but, for all that, we have no dramatist who does not from time to time borrow from the French, while we have a great many who never by any chance depart from that custom. If, with so many persons following the profession of dramatic author, we have no original spoken drama, is it likely, with so few composers, having only the rarest opportunities of exercising whatever powers may belong to them, that we shall ever have an original musical drama—a school of English opera really worthy of the name? At three different periods within the memory of old playgoers English opera has been started—to come, after an interval more or less prolonged, to a full stop. On each occasion Mr. Balfe has set the enterprise going; and when a rash attempt—a fourth attempt which we had not counted—was made, a few years ago, on the part of a joint-stock company, to carry on what was called English opera without the aid of Mr. Balfe, the result was a failure almost unexampled for its rapidity and completeness, even in the annals of operatic speculation.

We do not believe that the operatic performances at the Crystal Palace will lead to the establishment of a regular theatre for the production of works by English composers—where, indeed, putting Mr. Sullivan aside, are the English operatic composers to come from?—but the performances are interesting enough in themselves, and there is a certain significance in the fact that they have now for many weeks past attracted large audiences. Yet, with the exception of Miss Edith Wynne, no singer of very distinguished merit has taken part in them. Mr. George Perren, the director, is also the first tenor. The prima donnas have been, successively, Miss Blanche Cole (a debutante of promise), Miss Edith Wynne, and Madame Florence Lancia.

On Wednesday a concert took place at the Crystal Palace, which derived most of its interest from the presence of Mlle. Nilsson. This admirable vocalist, who had just arrived from Baden, and was to leave London the next day for Liverpool, sang, in the operatic style, "Spargi d'amore" (from the "Lucia"); and, in the sacred, "Angels ever bright and fair." That she was equally successful in both pieces need scarcely be added.

THE NORWICH MUSICAL FESTIVAL.—The receipts at this festival were, as nearly as can be estimated, £3950. This is the smallest amount which has been taken at any festival, the receipts in 1824 having been £6762; in 1827, £6498; in 1830, £5171; in 1833, £4876; in 1836, £5247; in 1839, £5639; in 1842, £5175; in 1845, £5432; in 1848, £5266; in 1852, £5017; in 1854, £4239; in 1857, £4348; in 1860, £5095; in 1863, £5273; and in 1866, £5783. The expenses in 1857 were cut down to £3997, the lowest point to which they have ever been brought, and, as a severe economy characterised the management of the last festival, it is hoped there will be no deficit.

THE METROPOLITAN PARISHES IN THE DIOCESE OF WINCHESTER.—On the avoidance of the see of Winchester the borough of Southwark, and the parishes of Battersea, Bermondsey, Camberwell, Christchurch, Clapham, Lambeth, Rotherhithe, Streatham, Tooting, Graveney, Wandsworth, Merton, Kew, and Richmond, in the county of Surrey, will, under the Act 26 and 27 Vict., for carrying into effect the report of the Commissioners appointed to inquire into the state of the dioceses of Canterbury, London, Winchester, and Rochester, and for other purposes, passed in 1863, be added to and become part of the see of London.

SOLWAY JUNCTION RAILWAY.—The Solway Junction Railway was opened for goods traffic on Monday. The line, which is twenty-one miles in length, will open a new link of communication between England and Scotland. It starts at Kirtle Bridge, on the Caledonian Railway, about seventeen miles north of Carlisle, and runs about seven miles, to the shore of the Solway Firth, near Annan. The firth is at that place about a mile and a half wide at high water. About a third of that distance is traversed by sea embankments erected on each shore, the intermediate portion being spanned by an iron viaduct 1950 yards long, erected upon hollow iron piles driven into the bed of the sea. On the Cumberland shore a deep moss, a mile and three quarters across, had to be traversed. This was a work of great difficulty, and delayed the completion of the line for several months. Ninety thousand faggots were used in making a foundation for the permanent way, which was laid upon sleepers, each 18 ft. in length. The line afterwards runs to Brayton station, on the Maryport and Carlisle Railway. The main object of the railway is to afford a shorter route for the Cumberland iron ores, of which about 200,000 tons are sent annually to Scotland; and the promoters compute that they can save 1s. ton in its carriage by the new line.

VIOLENT GALES.—The equinoctial gales which set in last Saturday continued on Monday on almost all our coasts. Very high winds prevailed everywhere except in the north. Heavy rains seem to have been general. Several disasters are reported both by sea and land. One of the features of the storm so far has been the sudden variations in the readings of the barometer. Although in the north readings have been lower than in the south, the gale seems to have been felt most severely in the English Channel and the southern and eastern counties. On Monday afternoon, about two o'clock, the pressure of the wind in London reached 30 lb. to the square foot. The wind has worked much havoc among the ancient trees in Windsor Forest and the Home Park. Large branches of the fine old elms, particularly in the Long Walk and Queen Anne's Ride, which have weathered the storms for nearly two centuries, have been torn away by the violence of the winds, and are strewn over the avenues and drives from one end to the other. At the new handsome lodge, at the entrance of the Long Walk, a window was actually blown out, frame and all. Intelligence of more casualties as the results of the gale continues to be received. One of the most disastrous reports is again from the west of England. On Monday night the ship Avonmore, bound from Cardiff to Monte Video, and laden with coals, was driven ashore at a point near Morwenstow, a portion of the north coast of Cornwall, where the waves of the Atlantic roll in with tremendous force. Of twenty-two men on board, seven were drowned.

A NEW TORPEDO.—The *Militairisches Wochenblatt* of Berlin has given a detailed account of a new torpedo, invented by Captain Lapis, of the Austrian navy, and Mr. Whithead, an engineer, which has been the subject of a course of experiments at Trieste. This torpedo is made of wrought iron, and has the form of a dolphin. One vertical and two horizontal projections, something like fins, prevent it from rolling over and preserve it in a state of equilibrium. The head of this iron fish contains the bursting charge, which consists, in the smaller pattern, of 40 lb., and in the larger one of 60 lb., of compressed gun-cotton. A large number of small movable iron plugs, or bolts, project from all sides of the head, and as soon as one of them comes into collision with the enemy's vessel it is driven in upon the ignition composition, and fires the charge. The motion is produced by a screw propeller at the tail of the fish, and is driven by means of compressed air, working at first starting with a power from thirty to thirty-five atmospheres. The small pattern torpedo is 11 ft. 7 in. long, 14 in. in diameter without the fins, and weighs 280 lb. The larger size is 14 ft. long, 16 in. in diameter, and weighs 490 lb. In order to give the torpedo the required direction, it is launched from an iron tube, the exact position of which is adjusted by two perpendicular bars, one fixed to each end and rising above the water. The average velocity for a distance of 4000 ft. was something under 10 ft. a second for the smaller size, and a little over 11 ft. for the larger. For the first 2000 ft. the machine maintained its original direction very correctly, but after this it often swerved from its course, which is attributed to the velocity falling off as the pressure in the air reservoir decreases. The course of the smaller engine was very uncertain at any distance, but the larger hit the mark about every other time. Still, great skill and practice are required for working these infernal machines, and the North German Admiralty has already introduced a regular course of torpedo instruction at Kiel.

OBITUARY.

LADY PALMERSTON.—Last Saturday morning Lady Palmerston expired at Brockton Hall, near Hatfield, having survived her illustrious husband four years all but a month. Her Ladyship left her town house in Park-lane a fortnight ago for her country-seat. Her health, considering her advanced age, seemed at that time excellent; and on the very day she was taken ill—Saturday, the 4th inst.—a select party of friends had been invited to meet at Brockton; but at the very last moment the invitations were countermanded. The malady was an alarming form of diarrhoea. In her journey from town, at the beginning of the previous week, her Ladyship had been accompanied by her daughter, Lady Jocelyn, and by Lord and Lady Sudley. When the illness took so critical a turn, her other relatives were summoned; and the Right Hon. W. F. Cowper, M.P., arrived at Brockton Hall the same day. Lord and Lady Shaftesbury, being on the Continent, were informed by telegraph of the patient's dangerous state. The late Emily Mary, Viscountess Palmerston, who was born April 21, 1787, was the eldest daughter of Peniston, first Viscount Melbourne, by his marriage with Elizabeth, only daughter of Sir Ralph Milbanke, Bart., of Hainaby, York. She was married, in 1805, to Peter Leopold, fifth Earl Cowper, by whom she had issue three sons and two daughters—namely, George, late Earl Cowper, father of the present Peer; the Right Hon. William Francis Cowper, M.P.; the Hon. Charles Spencer Cowper; Emily Caroline Catherine Frances, married to the Earl of Shaftesbury; and Frances Elizabeth, married to Viscount Jocelyn. Lady Emily Lamb's first husband having died in June, 1837, she married, secondly, Dec. 16, 1839, the late Viscount Palmerston; since whose death, in October, 1865, she has led a retired life, seldom mixing in society. On the death of her youngest brother, third and last Viscount Melbourne, Lady Palmerston succeeded to the family estates in Hertfordshire and Derbyshire. By her decease the families of Cowper, Roden, Shaftesbury, and Donegall are placed in mourning. The remains of Lady Palmerston will, we believe, be placed with her husband's in Westminster Abbey. It will be remembered that the late Lord Palmerston's interment there was a concession to the wish of the Queen and of the whole nation. He had desired to be buried in the family vault at Romsey; and his relict, in assenting to the general desire that his place of rest should be in the most honoured spot of national sepulture, is said to have made the one condition that on her own demise she should be laid by his side.

MR. THOMAS WATTS.—Mr. Thomas Watts, of the British Museum, died on the 9th inst. of an illness brought on by a carriage accident he met with some weeks since in Shropshire. Mr. Watts was recommended to an office in the Museum by Mr. Panizzi, the late Principal Librarian, in the year 1838, and he very soon distinguished himself by the prominence he gave to the Museum library among the libraries of the world for the thoroughness with which Slavonic literature and the literature of Hungary were represented in it. During the interval between the years 1838 and 1857 the arrangement of the books in the library was in Mr. Watts's management, and every volume in the library thus passed through his hands. When the new reading-room was opened in 1857 it was placed under the direction of Mr. Watts, and he presided there until the retirement of Mr. Panizzi two or three years ago, when he was succeeded in that office by Mr. Bullen, the present superintendent of the reading-room. Mr. Watts then became keeper of the department of printed books, an office which he held at the time of his death. In philological literature Mr. Watts is chiefly known by his miscellaneous contributions to periodicals, by a series of articles in the supplement of the *Penny Magazine*, and by the biographical memoirs of upwards of a hundred foreign authors, chiefly of the nations of Northern Europe. An essay of Mr. Watts in the Hungarian language procured for its author the membership of the Hungarian Academy; and he contributed a large number of papers to the *Transactions of the Philological Society*.

LORD KINGSTON.—The death of the Earl of Kingston took place on Thursday, Sept. 9, after a short illness, at the Imperial Hotel, Cork. James King, Baron Kingston, Viscount Kingsborough, and Earl of Kingston, in the Peerage of Great Britain, and a Baronet, was born in 1800. He was the son of George, the third Earl, and Lady Helena Moore, the only daughter of the first Lord Mountcashel. He was called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn in 1827, and succeeded his brother on Jan. 21, 1867. He married, on Aug. 25, 1860, Anne, fourth daughter of Matthew Brinkley, Esq., of Parsonstown House, in the county of Meath. He is succeeded in the title and estates by his cousin Robert, second Viscount Lorton, who resides at Rockingham, in the county of Roxborough, was born in 1804, is married to Anne, daughter of Sir Robert Gore Booth, Bart., and has issue. His heir, the Hon. R. E. King, is married to a daughter of the late Lord Templemore.

SIR W. C. ANSTRUTHER.—The death is announced of Sir Wyndham Carmichael Anstruther, a Nova Scotia Baronet, whose creation dates from 1694. The family is descended from William de Candela, who was lord of the lands and barony of Anstruther, county of Fife, in the time of Malcolm, fourth King of Scotland. His grandson Henry appears to have first assumed the surname of Anstruther from the said lands, and is so named in a deed of 1221. Sir James Anstruther, the twelfth in descent from William de Candela, was appointed Heritable Carver to James VI., 1585, and was constituted one of the Masters to the Household of his Majesty, 1592, with all the profits and privileges belonging to this office, which are hereditary in the family. The Baronet just deceased was born in 1793, was educated at Eton, and is succeeded by his son, Wyndham George Conway, who was born in 1845.

MURDER AND SUICIDE.

A DREADFUL crime was perpetrated on Monday night in a row of cottages off St. Leonard's-road, Poplar, where the entire family of a mechanic was destroyed with the utmost deliberation. It has been ascertained by the investigation of the authorities that the perpetrators, or at least the chief perpetrator, of the murder was Jonathan Judge, a driller employed in the building of iron ships, who resided with his wife, Clara Judge, a native of Devonshire, his daughter Louisa, aged four years, and an infant son, Charles, aged ten months, at 18, Bromley-cottages, St. Leonard's-road, not far from the East India Docks. During the great depression in the shipbuilding trade he was for a period of ten months wholly unemployed, and one of his children died and the infant Charles was born. These combined circumstances threw the family into extreme distress, but they never applied to the workhouse for any relief, even though they were often dependent upon the kindness of a neighbour for food. Their principal resource was a pawnshop; but a local club, the Great Eastern, gave some assistance on the occasion of the child's death. Some six weeks ago Judge got work at Messrs. Dudgeon's shipbuilding yard; but in three weeks a fire occurred at Messrs. Dudgeon's, and Judge was consequently again thrown out of work. This new blow seems quite to have overwhelmed him and his wife. A fortnight ago Mrs. Judge, while recounting her troubles to her next-door neighbour, Mrs. Farmer, said her husband the night before had said something in a very peculiar way. He said, according to her, "I know a way of ending the whole thing. It is a very easy way that I have heard of. It is not my life or your life that I care about, but I do care about the children."

This conversation denotes the time when the murderous intention first took possession of Judge's mind, the family becoming more sunk in poverty day by day; but it is a significant fact that, although there is reason to believe that Judge's design was matured and communicated to Mrs. Judge, the latter never again alluded to it in her conversations with Mrs. Farmer. On Monday evening Judge was summoned to attend a meeting of his club, to consider whether a young man who had broken his leg in a fight should be assisted out of the club funds. The club meeting over, Judge returned to 18, Bromley-cottages, and, finding his wife absent, he knocked at Mrs. Farmer's wall to attract her attention. Mrs. Judge

went to her husband, who appears to have fetched some beer in a can. He then with some paste, which had been previously made for the purpose, carefully covered all the chinks of the windows with brown paper. He next went into the yard and chopped up a great quantity of wood. He was so long engaged in this occupation that one of his neighbours gave him some pieces ready chopped, which he accepted. When he went indoors nothing further was seen or heard of the family until half-past nine o'clock on Tuesday morning.

The neighbours finding that, contrary to custom, the Judges made no sign of stirring so late as half-past nine o'clock, and the singular words of Mrs. Judge a fortnight ago being called to mind, the police were communicated with. Sergeant Holton, of the K division, and Police-Constable 292 K, at once proceeded to the spot, and with the aid of a ladder got in at the upper floor windows, and, breaking the glass, drew aside the blind. The fumes of charcoal were at once perceptible. The spectacle in the room was terrible. Judge and his wife lay on the bed in their night-dresses, and uncovered by the bedclothes; Mrs. Judge was on her back, and Judge, by her side, clasped her in his arms, his head reclining on her breast. The infant was on the mother's left side, and the little girl, Louisa, was nestling close to her father. All four were dead. The children had apparently died in their sleep without a pang. It was then seen that the door had been as carefully covered with paper to exclude air from the crevices as the window had been. A portion of an old milk-can, which stood near the table, and not far from the foot of the bed, had served as a brazier for the charcoal. The wood which had been given to Judge by the neighbour on Monday evening was found untouched, but the quantity of wood which he had himself cut up had disappeared, and it is, therefore, supposed that he had used it to intensify the fumes of the charcoal, of which he must have possessed himself with a view to the destruction of his family. Mr. Matthew Brownfield, police-surgeon, of the East India-road, was at once sent for, but he pronounced death to have occurred some considerable time previously.

On examining the premises more carefully two letters were found, one of which contained the words, "Give the eight-day clock to Ben.—Jonathan Judge." The other was a much longer document; it minutely specified the household things of which the family was possessed, and directed their distribution among relatives. It is signed, or at least purports to be signed, by "Jonathan Judge" and "Clara Judge." This fact leads to the supposition that Judge persuaded his wife to join him in destroying the whole family; and, indeed, from the position in which the body was found—clashed in his arms, and with the eyes open, showing that she had not been suffocated in her sleep—there is a difficulty in accepting any other theory of the affair. But Mrs. Farmer, who was intimately acquainted with Mrs. Judge, declares the signature, "Clara Judge," is a forgery of her husband's, who, according to her account, only imitated his wife's writing very unskillfully. Many of the neighbours concur with Mrs. Farmer in thinking that Mrs. Judge had no part in the perpetration of the crime—an opinion founded on her known character as a quiet, sensible, sober woman. It is surmised that she may have been drugged by her husband in the beer which he brought from a public-house prior to fastening up the window and cutting wood in the yard. The tragedy has, as might be expected, caused a most painful sensation in Poplar and Blackwall.

A coroner's jury, who inquired into the case on Wednesday, found that Judge and his wife had committed wilful murder by suffocating their two children, and had then destroyed their own lives.

POLICE.

REGULATIONS FOR COSTERMONGERS.—The following regulations, published on the 11th inst., have been made by the Commissioner of Police of the metropolis, and approved by her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State, for the carrying on of the business of costermongers, street hawkers, and itinerant traders within such parts of the metropolis as are inclosed in a circle of which the centre is Charing-cross and the radii are four miles in length:—"1. No barrow, cart, or stall for the sale of articles in the street shall exceed 3 ft. in width, and no part of any such barrow, cart, or stall shall project beyond the wheels. 2. No barrow, cart, or stall shall be placed or stand in any street or public way alongside another so as to lessen or obstruct the breadth of such street or public way by more than the width of one barrow, cart, or stall. 3. No barrow, cart, or stall shall be placed or stand in any street or public way within 4 ft. (measured along the length of any such street or public way) of another barrow, cart, or stall, which space of 4 ft. shall be kept so as to enable passengers to pass and re-pass between the road and the footway. 4. All costermongers, street hawkers, and itinerant traders shall, when requested to do so by any inhabitant, remove their barrows, carts, and stalls from before the house of such inhabitant, in order to enable him to load or unload any vehicle at his door. 5. No barrow, cart, or stall shall be placed or stand either wholly or in part on any street-crossing. 6. Costermongers, street hawkers, and itinerant traders are not to cry their goods in any street or public way on the Lord's Day to the annoyance of the inhabitants. 7. Costermongers, street hawkers, and itinerant traders, and their barrows, carts, and stalls, are hereby made liable to be removed from any street or public way in which they create an obstruction to the traffic or where they are an annoyance to the inhabitants. The 6th section of the Metropolitan Streets Act, 1867, prohibiting the deposit of goods in the streets, will not apply to costermongers, street hawkers, and itinerant traders, so long, and so long only, as their business is carried on according to the above regulations."

A DECIDEDLY "DANGEROUS MAN."—Patrick Long, forty-five, who appeared in the uniform of a commissionaire, No. 21, license No. 36, and who wore four medals and seven clasps on his breast, was charged before Mr. Newton, at Worship-street, on Tuesday, with having been drunk and assaulted Thomas Antrobus, by biting him in the cheek. The prosecutor is a barman at the Paul's Head public-house, Paul-street, Finsbury. He deposed that, about half-past eleven o'clock the previous

night, the prisoner entered and requested to be served with some liquor. Finding the prisoner the worse for drink already, his (witness's) mistress refused to serve him, and requested him to leave the house. This he refused to do, and used a great deal of bad language. Witness was asked to get him out of the house, and, for that purpose, went round the bar and told the prisoner that he must leave. Instantly the prisoner threw his left arm (the right has been removed) round his (witness's) neck, dragged him towards him, and, seizing his left cheek between his teeth, almost bit a piece out. The witness here exhibited to the court an angry laceration of the flesh, which was plainly the result of a bite. Before the prisoner could be made to release his hold a gentleman in the bar had to seize him by the throat. A police-constable (94 G) was then fetched, and witness gave him into custody. The prisoner, in answer to the charge, said that he did not recollect much of the matter. He knew, however, that the prosecutor had first assaulted and bitten him. He hoped his Worship would be lenient, as he could have seven years' good character from Captain Walters for the time he had been in the Commissionaires. He had also a wife and young family. Another charge of a similar description was proved against the prisoner. Mr. Newton said that after hearing this evidence he could not doubt that the prisoner was a most dangerous man. He hoped that Captain Walters would hear of this case, and that he (the prisoner) would be removed from the corps. It was incredible that a man who had seen service, and was covered with medals, should be guilty of such cannibal acts. He sentenced him to two months imprisonment with hard labour.

A VERY DOUBTFUL STORY.—In the course of Monday afternoon a sharp-looking lad, very poorly clad, about fourteen years of age, who gave the name of Thomas Jones and said he was a native of New York, applied to the sitting magistrate at Southwark for assistance, stating he was in great distress and in want of food and nourishment. In answer to the magistrate he said he was born in Tenth-street, near Broadway, New York, where his parents formerly lived in affluence. About twelve months ago they left New York for the purpose of taking up their residence at Jeddo, in Japan, and they took passage in a vessel for that port. On their arrival at Gibraltar, at applicant's particular request, he was left at the latter place, and his father and mother proceeded to Jeddo. Some time afterwards the ship was wrecked off the coast of Japan, and his parents were drowned. Feeling a desire to go back home, he worked his passage to New York; but, finding his relatives and friends gone, he thought he should like to come to England, as he had been told that he would soon get work in London, and earn at least 10s. a day. About two months ago he got on board a vessel bound for Cardiff, and came to this country to get a little work at different farms, and walked up to London, where he had been wandering about the streets for several days, and, being unable to gain employment or obtain food or shelter, he was recommended to apply to his Worship for assistance so that he might be sent back to New York. In answer to the chief clerk, he said that he came to Cardiff in the Lucy Johnson, and by the advice of an American sailor he stowed himself away without the knowledge of her captain. The latter, however, behaved kindly to him. The reason of his doing so was because he thought England was a better place than America. He farther said that his father and mother were on board the Princess Charlotte, of New York, which was wrecked on the coast of Jeddo, on Feb. 21 last. He related his story with such artfulness and apparent truthfulness that his Worship decided on sending him to the American Consul, so that he might be taken care of and sent home. It being late, however, his Worship directed Pike, the warrant-officer, to take him to the workhouse for the night, and, after supplying him with some necessities, accompany him the next morning to the American Consul. Just before the close of the court, Pike, the warrant-officer informed the chief clerk that after he had taken the lad a few yards from the police court he objected to enter a workhouse, saying that he had never been in such a place, and would at once go to the American Consul. The lad then ran away, and he had seen nothing of him since. He, however, believed him to be an American. The officer was directed to communicate with the American Consul.

A DIGNIFIED CASUAL.—At the Thames Police Court, on Tuesday, John Smith, aged thirty-two years, described as having no home and no occupation, was charged with refusing to perform the task of work assigned to him in the casual ward of Mile-end Old Town Workhouse. Thomas Davis, superintendent of casuals, said the prisoner would never do any work, but he would eat his bread and drink his gruel with enjoyment. The prisoner, a tall man, with a certain amount of dignity about him, although in rags, raised his head and said—"No, I cannot, indeed, execute such work as stone-breaking and oakum-picking. Really (in a contemptuous tone), I cannot do such work." Mr. Benson—"You seek the shelter of the casual ward, you are strong and healthy, you are provided with gruel and bread for supper, a bed for the night, and a piece of bread this morning, and you must do something for it, either at stone-breaking or oakum-picking. You have been here before, and if you will not do a few hours' work in the workhouse you must do it in prison. You are sentenced to one month's imprisonment and hard labour." The prisoner bowed politely, and walked in a stately manner from the dock.

DARING ESCAPE FROM DURHAM GAOL.—On Sunday evening a most daring case of prison-breaking occurred in the above prison. Two prisoners, one named Thomas Sheeley, committed for trial on the charge of the wilful murder of Robert Reed, of Shield-row, near Durham, and the other called Screener, for a felony at Sunderland, were confined in separate cells in the south wing, recently erected. The two prisoners appear to have held secret communication together, and so planned their escape. At the relief of the warders, at eight o'clock on Sunday evening, the prisoners were reported all right. The two men effected a communication with each other by removing several stones from the wall which divided their

cells, having secreted some masons' tools for the purpose. They then commenced to remove the iron bars from the cell window, and, having broken the glass, formed a rope by tearing up the clothes which they wore. This they made secure to one of the bars left for the purpose, and down it they slid into the adjoining quadrangle without creating an alarm. Another obstacle, however, prevented their speedy exit, in the shape of a wall 20 ft. high, which they scaled by means of a large scaffold pole which they placed against it. On reaching the top of this wall the pole fell, and appears to have aroused one of the prisoners who was confined in a cell on the same flat. A second wall about 8 ft. in height was easily scaled, and thence they reached the open country. By this time an alarm was given, the prisoner already mentioned having rang his bell and told the officer on duty what he heard. On examination being made, the two cells occupied by Sheeley and Screener were found empty. Immediate information was given to the county police authorities, who dispatched a force of constables in different directions, and about six o'clock on Monday morning Police-Constable Christian captured Sheeley at his brother's house at Craghead, a mining village near Durham. Screener has not yet been apprehended. At the time of their escape both men were nearly naked. The affair has created much alarm in and about Durham.

GROSS CRUELITIES ON SHIPBOARD.—The Cowes magistrates have been investigating charges of cruelty against David Rich Cook and John Lammell, the captain and mate of the ship Annie Boylston, while on her voyage from Callao to Cowes. When the vessel was anchored off Cowes one of the crew threw himself overboard and made towards the shore. Having been picked up by a yacht's boat, before the evening three more of the crew got ashore, and others next day. They were preceded in an application to the police by a passenger, who, having landed, took some papers to the authorities which had been drawn up by the crew. The captain, coming ashore, was followed by a large number of sailors and others, and took refuge in a shop, whence the police rescued him and conveyed him before the magistrates. There some four or five of the crew detailed various kinds of ill-treatment to which they had been subjected. Thomas Mansfield deposed that when ill with dysentery the mate dragged him out of the fore-castle, beat him with brass knuckles on his hand, and forced him to work a capstan bar, and every time he came round he struck him with a bludgeon. Another witness proved that the carpenter, who was left at Callao, and was since believed to be dead, was also beaten with brass knuckles by the mate and received five wounds on his head; whilst another of the crew, named Ryan, was beaten with a club by the mate, and had his nose broken. It was at night, and Ryan having cried loudly, the captain came out of his cabin with a naked sword and dark lantern and asked what was the matter, when the mate replied, "It's the man that insulted you the other day." The captain said, "Ah, then, you have got him at last," and called for irons to put him in; but one of the crew, seeing Ryan in a pool of blood, suggested, "Had you not better look at the man, for perhaps he will die before morning?" The captain then said that he should be put in his cabin, where it was found his nose was broken—"it seemed to turn on a pivot." Ryan called out for mercy, when the mate again struck him, and threatened to shoot with his revolver the first man that stirred. A lengthened inquiry resulted in the commitment for trial of the captain and mate on some of the charges, and their remand to the divisional petty sessions at Newport on others, and the fining of one of the crew (John Lealee) in 30s. and costs for assaulting the captain in the street at Cowes. As the sailor had no money the public present in the room made a subscription, and saved him from being transferred to gaol.

PAUPERISM IN SCOTLAND.—The Commons' Select Committee on the operation of the poor laws in Scotland were not able to complete their inquiry last Session, and have had to content themselves with reporting to the House evidence and returns filling 496 folio pages, and proposing, to resume the investigation next year. Official returns laid before the Committee, stating the total number of poor of all classes receiving relief from the rates in Scotland on May 14 in each of the last twenty years, show that in the ten years 1850-9 the average was 120,806, or 4.098 per cent of the population; and in the nine years 1860-8 it was 127,236, or 4.086 per cent of the population. But the number in 1868 showed a large increase. On May 14, 1867, the number was 128,361, or 4.053 per cent of the population; but on May 14, 1868, it was 136,236, or 4.278 per cent of the population. The increase of expenditure for relief of the poor and management has been very great in the last twenty years. In 1848 it was £544,334; in 1858, £640,700; in 1868, £863,202; this last year including the large expenditure of £67,711 in building. The average of the ten years 1850-9 was £595,211 a year; of the nine years 1860-8, £756,087 a year. The increase of expenditure is attributed to increased allowances to paupers relieved, additional cost of management and for buildings, and additional cost of lunatics since the building of new asylums. A witness, a member of a parochial board, represents that the Board of Lunacy ferret out cases that need not be taken under their charge. But while the expenditure has increased, so also has the value of the property assessed. In 1846 the annual value of lands and heritages in Scotland was returned to Parliament as £9,870,058; in 1853 it was estimated at £12,491,325; and in 1868, at £16,443,277. In the ten years 1850-9 the annual average charge for the poor was 5.150 per cent on the annual value of real property; in the nine years 1860-8, 5.083 per cent. In 1858 it was 5.129 per cent; but in 1868, 5.249 per cent. The increase of population is considerably less than the increase in the value of property. The people are producing much more per man than they did. There has been a great increase of wealth, and a great improvement in the condition of the productive classes. The measure of what a pauper ought to receive bears a relation to what a working man can maintain his family upon. The allowance to each pauper on the roll in Scotland has increased.

A MAN BOILED ALIVE.—A lunatic named Darrell has met his death at the North Riding Asylum through an act of gross neglect. William

Tracey, an attendant, had charge of him, and was to give him a bath; but instead of doing this duty himself he left it to be performed by two patients. These unfortunate persons turned on only the boiling water into the bath, and put Darrell into it. The man's legs were shockingly scalded, but the attendant failed to report the fact, and the patient died of his injuries. At an inquest held on the body the jury returned a verdict censuring Tracey and the head attendant, Brockbank, who also knew of the accident and did not report it. Tracey has been dismissed.

THE POLICE IN PECKHAM.—Last week an outrage was committed in South London, the incidents of which prove the imperative necessity of reorganising the police arrangements of the district, and show that the present condition of the neighbourhood is such as to cause wide-spread alarm among the inhabitants. It appears from the scanty particulars which we have been able to obtain that on the occasion in question loud cries for help were heard proceeding from the house next the George beershop, St. George's-road, North Peckham, one of the inmates of which is a returned convict, who has been several times convicted. None of the people in the close vicinity had the courage to proceed to the house to ascertain the cause of the cries. The landlord of a public-house in the neighbourhood, however, sprang a rattle with the object of procuring the assistance of the police; but, though he continued to use the instrument, and also fired a revolver, no reply was made to the alarm. When the uproar had subsided, the convict referred to proceeded into the street, and, having asked another man, named Cochrane, why he had been listening, he put on a pair of knuckle-dusters and struck him a very hard blow on his forehead, by which a severe wound was inflicted. Cochrane, who lost a large quantity of blood, was taken to his house, and, though he suffered considerably, he has recovered. Several grave considerations are suggested on the perusal of the facts of this case. The character of the house in which the convict lived was well known; yet he was allowed time to attack some one in the house and then violently assault a looker-on in the street before a policeman could be summoned, even with the assistance of rattles, alarm-whistles, and revolvers. Again, the imminent danger which the inhabitants constantly apprehend from thieves in the district must be fairly assigned as the reason for their keeping such instruments in their possession. Further, the people of the house in which the convict resided have been allowed to leave it without, so far as we can ascertain, any investigation being made regarding the causes of the tumult of which the outrage on Cochrane was the sequel. To indicate the extent to which official punctiliousness is carried it may be mentioned that, though two policemen in the neighbourhood were asked to interfere, they replied that they could not leave their own beats. After the urgency of the case was suggested, however, one of them proceeded to the place where the outrage was committed. It is not individuals, but the system which is to be deprecated. The beats of some of the men in the locality extend over an area of two miles, so that their appearance in any fixed place cannot, as a rule, be reckoned upon more than once in two hours. When the increase in the population in the district referred to is considered, and also the number of thieves and burglars resident within its limits, it will not be heard with surprise that it is contemplated to hold a public meeting, at which the condition of the neighbourhood will be amply described, with a view to obtain increased protection from the authorities.—Times.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 10.

BANKRUPTS.—J. BALL, Oakham, cooper—S. T. BANKS, Greenwich, milliner—W. BARK, Hoxton, looking-glass manufacturer—C. CARRIAGE, Croydon, commercial traveller—W. CALDWELL, Daresbury, civil engineer—J. COOK, Causton, hamp, boot and shoe maker—R. P. and J. C. EVANS, Southwark, hamp merchant—J. C. HANKIN, Kingsland-green, carpenter—J. H. HOBBS, Southwark, commission agent—J. HAGON, jun., Lambeth, slate-mason—P. SYMONS, Newington—S. S. HAWKINS, Chingford, commission agent—G. LAKE, Tower-hill, wine and spirit merchant—H. LOVEGROVE, Islington, picture-frame maker—J. V. MILLER, Clapham, secretary to insurance company—G. PLAYFOOT, Lambeth, fish-curer—J. POOLE, Hampstead, commission agent—G. FOTTER, Halesworth, brewer—T. STANWAY, West-cumbe-grove, plumber—S. TAYLER, Haverstock-hill and Seething-lane, canvas merchant—C. H. TURNER, Marylebone—J. TOWNSEND, Camberwell, baker—K. WALLEY, Woolwich, retirement-house keeper—J. WATSON, Hampstead-road, builder—T. ABBOTT, Blackburn, commission agent—A. ALLISON, Hunsington St. Edmunds, butcher—W. BARKER, Nottingham, stone-mason—J. R. BLEDHAM, Guildford, painter and glazier—T. BELLMAN, Manchester, fish-curer—J. BLACKMORE, Aldershot, tailor—G. BOWLEY, Wharton, bookseller—A. W. SADD, East Doreham, brushmaker—W. BROUGH, Chesham, wheelwright—J. H. COX, Wednesbury—P. J. FOX, Finsbury, butcher's salesman—W. H. GASKIN, Liverpool, commission merchant—G. GILL, South, insurance agent—J. H. GIBBER, Eastwood, clothier—W. GREENHOUSE, Chippenham, mercer—J. HAYWARD, Gorton, grocer—G. HIBBERT, Ashton-under-Lyne, provision-dealer—C. HONOUR, Brighton, musician—W. WILKINSON, Exeter, licensed victualler—C. HAYKINS, St. George, baker—J. HOLLAND, Kingston, brewer—G. JENNINGS, Ilminster, bookseller—T. JONES, Blaenavon, jeweller—L. LUDWIG and A. J. HOYLE, Huddersfield, jewellers—W. S. LEEDS, Sharples, joiner—W. MARSHALL, Southwark, joiner—W. MORRIS, Rochester, bookseller—T. G. NUTT, Old London, butcher—J. NAYLOR, Haydock, shopkeeper—J. T. STROUD, Birmingham, chandelier manufacturer—J. C. and T. J. STROUD, Birmingham, chandelier manufacturers—W. SUGDEN, Cuckfield, worsted-spinner—D. THOMPSON, Bootle, painter and glazier—E. WEAVER, Hythe, bookseller.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 14.

BANKRUPTS.—V. W. ABRAHAM, Lynton, builder—J. BAILES, Tottenham, cabinet-maker—R. AYLING, Kensington, commercial traveller—E. BARRETT, Shepherd's-bush, agent for the sale of horses—H. P. BROWN, Stratford, commission agent—A. BROWN, Seymour-place, Bryanston-square, corn-dealer—J. D. DONOVAN, Kingsland, bootmaker—J. CHALK, Salisbury, rug and mat maker—R. P. FARMER, Farringdon-street, commercial traveller—S. GROSSMAN, St. Mary's-treet, Southampton, tailor—R. HAMMOND, Chatham, farmer—J. E. JAMES, Aston-road—J. R. KING, Methwold, draper—R. S. LARGY, Watford, corn-dealer—L. KINSMAN, Lambeth, brewer's drayman—J. LEVY, Finsbury-market, boot and shoe maker's assistant—M. PORTER, Ilford, grocer—M. H. MILTON, Russell-square, commission agent—G. SILVER, Kingsland-road, grocer—T. E. SMITH, Rotherhithe, clerk—W. SMITH, Camberwell, general dealer—T. THOMAS, Hornsey, corn-dealer—W. R. TOLNER, Barking, Essex, commission agent—W. REDFORD, Marshfield, licensed victualler—J. BISPHAM, Liverpool, licensed victualler—J. BELLIS, Kingston-on-Hull, grocer—R. BRADBRIDGE, Plymouth, tea-dealer—J. BRAYNE, Northampton, licensed victualler—M. CLAVEY, Croydon, meat-dealer, carpenter—E. CLAYTON, Manchester—J. DALKIN, Gateshead, hostler—T. SMITH, Baywater, upholsterer—A. ROBINSON, Leeds, beerhouse-keeper—T. DAVIN, en, Bristol, chimney-sweeper—E. DAWSON, Leicester, coach-builder—J. DEAN, Newcastle-on-Tyne, joiner—J. FRIEL, Castle-street, Dalton-in-Furness, labourer—R. DOUGHTY, Kingston-on-Hull, licensed victualler—J. EDWARDS, Westbromwich, clerk—W. B. ELLISON, Kingston-on-Hull, grocer—E. GLE-HILL, Huddersfield, cloth-dealer—J. H. FRANKS, St. Helena, tailor—J. GREENWOOD, Halifax, woolstapler—J. HALL, Crumpton, cloth-finisher—E. H. PORTER, Huddersfield, fish and game dealer—W. HALL, Bradford, confectioner—J. HARMER, Hawthorn, plumber—J. S. HAMMETT, Plymouth, butcher—J. HAWKINS, Taunton, builder—J. HAYES, Farnfield, glazier—J. HEDLEY, jun., Newcastle-on-Tyne, clerk—J. HOLLIS, Wellington, dealer—H. HOLSTED, Huddersfield, green-grocer—J. LITTLE, Liverpool, tobacconist—W. H. HUGHES, Salford, grocer—J. N. LEAMAN, Plymouth, tea-shop-keeper—J. LEWIS, Droyden, labourer—D. T. M. C. LOUGH, Liverpool, wine-merchant—B. NUTTALL, Paignton, tea-dealer—T. PERKMAN, Branton, farmer—T. PHILLIPS, Worcester, hairdresser—S. SMITH, Salford, salesman—J. TAYLOR, Kirkstall, tinner

THE MUSICAL TIMES of Sept. 1, in speaking of the following Songs for Children, remarks:—
"We have now to introduce one more composer, and a very clever one, too, who should receive a cordial welcome, bringing, as he does, healthy words and healthy music, and a better introduction to the songs are in the themes which must recommend these little vocal pieces both to singers and listeners; and we conscientiously call the attention of teachers to music so carefully and artistically written."
SONGS FOR CHILDREN. By A. S. GATTY. Each 3s.; post-free for 19 stamps.

1. Raindrops patter.
2. Child's Good Night.
3. The Snow Man.
4. Going to School.
5. Burial of the Linnet.
6. Above the Spire.

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SIX COLOURED PLATES,
Price One Shilling.

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"I give and bequeath unto the Treasurer for the time being of the Cancer Hospital, London, situate at No. 167, Piccadilly, and also in the Fulham-road, Brompton, the sum of £— (free of duty), to be paid out of my personal estate, not charged on land, to be applied towards carrying on the charitable designs of the said institution." By order, H. J. JUFF.

CITY of LONDON HOSPITAL for

DIARRHEA of the CHEST, Victoria Park.—ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS and DONATIONS are earnestly solicited in support of this Institution.
HENRY SEWELL, Hon. Sec.
Office—24, Finsbury-circus.

KING'S COLLEGE HOSPITAL, Portugal-

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2000 Pieces Autumn Dress Goods.
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Scotch Serges, Linseys, Camlets, Alpaca, Mohairs, English and Foreign Reps, Portulines, &c. We have, during the dull season, purchased several large lots, real bargains—many amongst them one half the manufacturers' prices—in Light, Medium, and Dark Colours. Some are suitable for the present season, which we shall offer from 2s. 6d. to 6s. 9d. the Dress of 12 yards. Also a stock of useful Mourning and Half-Mourning Dresses, from 2s. 11d. to 10s. 6d. the Dress. Patterns post-free to any address.
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34-inch Ivory handles, per dozen 13 0

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BED-ROOM FURNITURE.—An Illustrated Catalogue, with prices of 1000 Articles of Bed-Room Furniture, sent free by post, on application to Filmers and Sons, Upholsters, 31 and 32, Berners-street, Oxford-street, W.; Factory, 34 and 35, Charles-street.

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(Chemists, &c., in every town, and Confectioners in London). This Tea is uniformly strong, and moderate in price. Genuine packets are signed by W. H. Horniman & Co.

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Beware of Imitations, and see the names of Lea and Perrins on all bottles and labels.—Agents, Croose and Blackwell, London; and sold by all Dealers in Sauces throughout the World.

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GLENFIELD

STARCH.
See that you get it, as inferior kinds are often substituted for the sake of extra profits.

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J. W. WALDRON, Secretary.

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institution in the metropolis for the treatment and prevention of contagious fevers.
CONTRIBUTIONS will be gratefully received by Messrs. Dinsdale and Co., 50, Cornhill; Messrs. Drummond, Charing-cross; Messrs. Coutts, Strand; Messrs. Hoare, Fleet-street; and by the Secretary, at the Hospital, Liverpool-road, Islington, N.

POOR SICK and HELPLESS CHILDREN.

THE ROYAL INFIRMARY for CHILDREN and WOMEN, Waterloo Bridge-road. Instituted 1810.
Increased PECUNIARY ASSISTANCE is most earnestly needed, and solicited for continuing relief to the poor little suffering inmates at this Hospital.
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